GOVERNMENT OF BIHAR AND ORISSA.

REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF BIHAR AND ORISSA

DURING

1915-1916.

00133060

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# REPORT

ON THE

# ADMINISTRATION

OF

# BIHAR AND ORISSA

## 1918-1919

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# PART I.

## INTRODUCTORY CHAPTER.

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# SHORT SUMMARY

ON THE

# ADMINISTRATION OF BIHAR AND ORISSA, 1918-19,

FROM

**The 1st April 1918 to 31st March 1919.**

Introductory.

**1.** The year opened at the crisis of the war and saw the final desperate struggle gradually turn to an assurance of victory for the Allies, consummated in the armistice of November 11th. The seriousness of the situation at the beginning of the year was brought home to India by the Prime Minister's message; and the news of the victories of the late summer and autumn and of the signing of the armistice were received with corresponding relief and thankfulness.

Although the effects of four years of war were visible, the economic condition of the people, at the beginning of the year, was on the whole fair. A bumper harvest had been reaped, local stocks were unusually high on account of lack of freight, and rice was selling at prices ranging from 11 to 19 seers for the rupee. Prices of other necessaries, were rising, although the Government control of salt had done much to mitigate hardship. The monsoon, however, was very unfavourable. The autumn and still more, the all-important winter rice, crops were injuriously affected by the prolonged drought of July and by the early cessation of the rains in September which also greatly contracted the area sown with spring crops. The unfavourable conditions combined to reduce the total outturn so much that by the end of the year the Province had reaped barely two-thirds of its normal produce. The middle classes were very hard hit by the resulting high prices, whilst the poorer cultivators and the landless classes were in acute distress. The general failure of crops throughout India and the world shortage of food-stuffs added to the gravity of the situation. By October the position had become so serious that a special Food-Stuffs Commissioner was appointed by the Government of India and a whole-time Director of Civil Supplies was appointed for the Province. It was found necessary to control inter-provincial movements of rice, wheat and gram, the three principal staple food-grains of all-India importance.

To meet the needs of the poorer classes, whose only clothing consists of cotton cloth the price of which had risen to a prohibitive degree, the Local Government placed a large order for the purchase of the standard cloth which the Government of India had decided to have manufactured at a specially low rate. A Provincial Controller was appointed to arrange

for its distribution. On the conclusion of the armistice the price of cloth in the open market fell heavily and large quantities were purchased and sold in the bazars at cost price through Government-controlled agencies.

War services.

**2.** One hundred and thirty-five Government officers were employed on war services and eight of these gave their lives for their country. In August 1918 the nucleus of the 1/133rd Bihar and Orissa Regiment was formed. The regiment rapidly rose to full battalion strength, the police contributing a large proportion of the establishment. It had reached a high standard of efficiency before it was disbanded in April 1919. The recruiting figures gradually improved until by the months of September and October the monthly average reached a thousand. By the end of the year 8,968 recruits had been enlisted for combatant services, of whom 4,185 were obtained from the Shahabad district alone. Two labour corps from the Santal Parganas and one and a half from Ranchi served in France and acquitted themselves with credit. The Feudatory States doubled the number of recruits sent to labour corps and contributed 80 lakhs of rupees to the various war funds while investing freely in war loans.

The rich mineral deposits and ores including iron, copper, wolfram and mica were exploited to the utmost to help in the active prosecution of the war. The output of coal rose to 13,675,616 tons, or more than two-thirds of the total output of India. The whole of the coal industry was controlled by Government, all the better class of coal was requisitioned, while the output of collieries working poorer class coal was restricted in order to make labour available for the larger and better class mines. Iron and steel companies were busy executing Government orders for rails and other materials for war areas. Labour was plentiful and there was a large increase in the number of people employed. One of the most valuable mica-producing areas in the world is situated in the Koderma forest. Lessees were urged to increase the output to the highest possible figure while certain undeveloped areas were taken under direct Government control. The output rose in consequence from 29,191 to 44,220 cwts., representing about $\frac{11}{13}$ths of the total output of India. The timber resources of the Province were fully utilized by the Munitions Board. Up to the close of the year 1918 the Forest Department had supplied 2,773 tons of sleepers and 692 tons of squares, piles and scantlings.

General events.

**3.** There were no serious disturbances like those which marred the previous year in the districts of Arrah and Gaya. The Bakr-Id of 1918 passed off quietly. A tribal rising of Kishans broke out in the Surguja State in May. As this state adjoins Chota Nagpur prompt measures were taken to prevent the trouble spreading over the border. At the request of the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, the Ranchi Military Police Company was sent to the spot and lent valuable aid in the quick suppression of the rising.

A Publicity Committee was formed in June 1918 and did useful work in contradicting wild rumours and spreading accurate news of the progress of the war; it also encouraged recruiting and explained the objects for which the Allies were fighting, among classes untouched by ordinary publications. The news of the final victories of the Allies was received with universal rejoicing.

The Province was twice visited by the influenza epidemic. The first visitation in August was comparatively mild. It reappeared in October and rapidly spread all over the Province; the disease was especially severe in November and December and caused many deaths particularly among the ill-clad and ill-fed poor of the rural areas. Special grants were made by Government and these were supplemented by grants from local bodies for the employment of additional doctors and the free distribution of medicine and pamphlets.

**Constitutional Reforms.**

**4.** Apart from the war the main interest of the year lies in the development of the schemes for constitutional reforms. The policy of the British Government had been definitely laid down in the announcement of the 20th August 1917. The discussion of the details was focussed by the publication in July 1918 of the Joint Report of His Excellency the Viceroy and His Majesty's Secretary of State for India. The proposals embodied therein were examined by the Local Government and official and non-official opinions invited. A conference was held at Ranchi on the 13th and 14th September with the non-official members of the Legislative Council before the views of the Local Government were placed before the Government of India. The Southborough Franchise and Subjects Committees sat at Patna in November and examined various official and non-official witnesses.

**Administration.**

**5.** The shortage of officers due to a large number of European officers of the Indian civil and provincial services being absent on military service, became more and more serious and caused grave difficulty in providing an adequate staff for district work. Six retired Deputy Collectors were re-employed temporarily, while the programme of survey and settlement operations was reduced to meet the emergency.

**Police.**

**6.** Owing to the general rise in prices and the bad agrarian conditions there was an inevitable increase in crime; and the additional heavy work had to be borne by a much depleted cadre, 18 officers out of a total of 57 of the superior service being on military service. A serious outbreak of dacoities occurred in the Manbhum district which has been for some time a stronghold of professional criminals. Vigorous measures were taken to suppress these dacoits, extra police were drafted into the district and the leaders of a notorious Bhumij gang were captured and transported. The military police were strengthened by the addition of a third company stationed at Hazaribagh.

Reference has already been made to the 1-133rd Bihar and Orissa Regiment. The Police contributed 9 British officers and 900 men to this battalion, which was very favourably reported on by the General Officer Commanding the Presidency Brigade.

Thanks to the character of the general population and the vigilance of the police, assisted by the operation of the Defence of India Act, there has never yet been any serious outbreak of political crime. But there has always been the danger of the Province being used as a haven of refuge by absconding Bengali revolutionaries and it was found that not less than 22 of these undesirables had attempted to use Bihar in this way and as a seed bed for their propaganda. They were all rounded up by November but had in the meantime succeeded in poisoning the minds of some students of the

colleges at Bhagalpur, Patna and Muzaffarpur, several of whom it was found necessary to intern. An effort was made to reclaim these youthful offenders and a school for thirteen of them was opened at Mahilong near Ranchi.

**Public Works Department.**

**7.** Owing to financial stringency many important works had to be deferred, while others were postponed on account of the difficulty of obtaining materials from England. Considerable improvements were however made to the road from Ranchi to Chaibassa which constitutes a link in the through route joining Bihar with Orissa.

The provisional views of the Government of India on the conclusions of the Public Works Reorganization Committee were received. A small provincial committee was formed in April to consider among other proposals those relating to the transfer of certain branches to the charge of local bodies, the reorganization of the engineering staff and the importance of encouraging the growth of private contracting enterprise. Questions of accounts and procedure and conditions of service of the specialist branches were also considered.

**Local Self-Government.**

**8.** The progress of Local Self-Government was reviewed by the Government of India at the beginning of the year. In accordance with the views thus expressed fourteen municipalities were given the right to elect their own Chairmen. In the majority of cases the votes recorded at municipal elections exceeded 60 per cent of the electorate. The secret ballot introduced with the revised election rules worked satisfactorily on the whole and is reported to have done something to check corruption. Signs of an increasing public interest in local affairs were shown in Patna City, where, for the first time in its history, the elections were contested on a definite party programme of civic policy and a strong party was returned with a definite mandate for efficient management and retrenchment.

Government have for some years endeavoured to ensure improved sanitary administration by giving to municipalities a subsidy to meet the cost of health officers. In order to accelerate progress in this direction in rural as well as urban areas a scheme for the formation of a Provincial Sanitary Service was initiated of which the general lines have been accepted by the majority of local bodies. The financial resources of the District Boards were utilized to combat the continued rise in price of salt, cloth and rice, the control and distribution of salt being placed in their hands. Several Boards took large short-term loans from Government to enable them to finance their operations.

The formation and development of unions still proceeded slowly but in a few districts the value of these local organizations is being more fully realized.

During the war local bodies were not able fully to utilize their resources on account of the dearth of material and lack of transport. In consequence their closing balances have been increasing steadily. But the execution of the many important original works which have thus been delayed will soon reduce these accumulations.

**Agriculture.**

**9.** Excessive rainfall in June followed by a long drought in July and the complete failure of the autumn rains resulted in an outturn of little more than two-thirds of the normal crop and naturally caused

grave distress among a population almost completely agricultural. Living in closely packed villages with a density of population in parts exceeding a thousand per square mile, the raiyats have already cultivated the bulk of the land available and provision for an increased population or for a higher standard of living is possible only by increasing the productiveness of the soil through the expert assistance and guidance of the Department of Agriculture.

The staff of the department continued much below normal strength owing to war exigencies, while funds are hard to find for the expansion which is clearly desirable. The main need for the moment is more experimental and demonstration farms for the study of local problems and the dissemination of the results among the cultivators. Schemes for such farms were in course of preparation, and in particular the location of the sugar research station at Sipaya was finally settled. The Province lacks, at present, an export staple of first class importance, such as wheat in the Punjab or jute in Bengal, and it is hoped that sugarcane to which increasing attention is being paid will eventually supply the need. Meanwhile the main activities of the Department other than those of research have been devoted to the encouragement of improved crops, whose value has been already tested, notably *Kakaya* Bombay jute in the district of Purnea and *indrasail* paddy and Pusa No. 12 wheat in North and South Bihar. In Orissa large quantities of mungo sugarcane setts were distributed, while groundnut has definitely established itself in the Cuttack and Puri districts. This latter crop has great possibilities in view of its high intrinsic value and its ability to grow on poor land with the cheapest forms of manuring. Extensive trials were made in cultivating the mixed Cawnpore American cotton seed and results were obtained showing that this type of cotton may be suitable for South Bihar.

The Veterinary Department continued to struggle against the handicap of an insufficient and underpaid staff. Nevertheless much useful work was done in combating outbreaks of disease, though its importance is scarcely realized by the public and the department does not receive as full support from local bodies as it deserves.

**10.** The wide-spread influenza epidemic, which alone accounted for 600,000 deaths within three months, and a visitation of cholera, the mortality from which was exceeded only once during the past forty years, combined to raise the death-rate in the previous year from 35·2 to 56·7 per mille. The fall of the birth-rate from 40·4 to 37·5 was also probably due to the influence of the influenza epidemic assisted to some extent by the increase of malaria. **Public health.**

Since the responsibility of providing for and looking after sanitation in urban and rural areas rests primarily with the local bodies an attempt has been made to increase the interest of the educated classes throughout the province in hygiene. A special publicity bureau was formed to promote a health campaign throughout the Province both by publication and by lectures given in the principal towns. Hygiene is now being taught in all the lower classes in the schools and a scheme for extending the teaching to the upper classes is being examined. Local bodies have been asked to support the formation of a provincial Sanitary Service.

The number of hospitals and dispensaries increased by five to 425. The asylum at Ranchi for European lunatics was opened in May 1918 and progress has been made on the central asylum at Ranchi for Indian insanes.

Education.

**11.** A feature of the year was the passing of the Bihar and Orissa Primary Education Act which authorizes municipalities and unions, subject to certain conditions, to make primary education compulsory for all boys ordinarily residing within the area of their jurisdiction. A series of informal conferences at divisional headquarters were held, to discuss practical measures for the expansion of primary education. Various schemes were considered and District Boards were asked to prepare revised programmes of expenditure for the next ten years on the lines of the policy announced by the Government of India. The development of primary education rests in the hands of the local bodies and it will be for them to see, not only that adequate facilities are provided, but that the money available is spent to the best advantage. In particular some more efficient control of the large number of stipendiary schools is required; and local bodies have been invited to adopt the policy of making grants-in-aid to local committees and organizations which have a personal interest in securing the efficiency of the schools rather than to make payments direct as hitherto to a *guru* whose work can be inspected under the present system at most once or twice a year. As Local Self-Government becomes more real, and it is recognized that the general educational level must determine the rate of political advance, it is hoped that the public will take a more active interest in the control and supervision of primary schools.

The combination of untoward circumstances which marked the year had a very adverse effect on primary education. The violence of the influenza epidemic caused the temporary closing of many schools, and many unaided primary schools possessing little financial stability were compelled to close on account of a large decrease in their fee income which was a result of the general straitened economic conditions. Government and aided schools were not affected by this stringency but actually increased in numbers by 138. There was a very considerable increase in the funds for primary education at the disposal of local bodies who were relieved of expenditure on middle English schools and received a further recurring grant of more than Rs. 50,000 for primary education.

There was a marked increase, from 497 to 525, in the number of secondary schools, the largest increase since the creation of the Province. All middle English schools formerly managed or aided by local bodies were converted into schools aided by Government, and in many cases the grants have been largely increased. Suitable courses were framed for the school-leaving certificate examination embracing a large number of optional subjects outside the ordinary matriculation syllabus. There were important developments in Sanskrit education which will result in a great improvement in the standard of the Sanskrit schools. The number and value of primary scholarships have been raised and have proved a real help to poor and promising students. Under the new scholarship rules there has been a marked increase in the number won by girls. There was a satisfactory increase in the number of all classes of girls' schools. Revised projects for the improvement of the Bihar School of Engineering and the foundation of a School of Engineering at Cuttack have been submitted to the Government of India.

A considerable advance was made in the organization of the University. The first faculties were constituted, boards of studies were formed, and the University curricula framed.

Co-operative Societies.

**12.** Although economic conditions were by no means favourable considerable progress was made. Ten new central banks and 458 new societies of which thirty were non-agricultural were started. The Provincial Bank was able to meet the demands of all its members and make a profit of Rs. 23,646 after paying a dividend of 6 per cent to its share-holders and carrying Rs. 8,851 to its reserve fund. Apart from the soundness of the investment the value of the co-operative movement in the general, moral and economic progress of the people should commend it to local patriotism as deserving of a more generous public support. The prevailing high prices gave an impetus to the formation of distributive stores, which increased from 6 to 12, but, until societies are able to command a much larger capital and to employ capable management, agricultural societies do not yet appear advanced enough to cope with the difficulties of marketing their own products in distant markets.

The number of guarantee unions rose from 21 to 42. These are organizations intermediate between the primary agricultural society of some thirty members and the central bank, whose activities cover an area of roughly 1,000 square miles. With their more intimate local knowledge they are better placed to make sound and prompt advances than the central banks whose function should be to finance and control the unions. The development of these unions will be watched with interest and their success should stimulate a much greater spirit of true co-operation and a sense of increased responsibility and power of self-government.

The value of the co-operative movement, quite apart from its purely economic benefits, as a factor in the development of a sound civic spirit can hardly be exaggerated, and the increased interest displayed by members of rural societies in education and public health is an indication that such a development is already in progress.

Forest.

**13.** The total revenue increased from Rs. 7,98,724 to Rs. 9,31,061 and the surplus over expenditure was nearly five lakhs. This was mainly due to the large demand for " munitions timber ".

Owing to the short-sighted policy of land-owners and tenants the deforestation of considerable areas has become a grave question. Steps were taken to acquire for the State the Banspahar forest in the Ranchi district, while much more extensive acquisitions are in contemplation. To secure private forests from further spoliation no fewer than 19 encumbered estates managers and one private owner have been induced to make applications for the proper management of their forests. The process of separating out from the tracts of nominally protected State forests the portions which are really worth full protection was continued in the Orissa districts, and similar action was taken in Palamau. Experiments were begun in the Puri district with a view to convert comparatively worthless jungle into valuable teak forest at no expense by allowing the villagers to cultivate limited areas on the condition that they plant teak seedlings on the adjoining waste land. An area of 144 acres adjoining the sea-shore at Puri was planted out with casuarina,

which in addition to providing fuel for the residents and pilgrims will protect the inland fields from the drifting sand. A rapid extension of this experiment is contemplated.

Finance.

**14.** Imperial receipts amounted to Rs. 1,25,85,000 and expenditure to Rs. 44,57,000; Provincial receipts were Rs. 3,57,27,000 and expenditure Rs. 3,39,41,000.

There was a net increase of provincial receipts by Rs. 28,20,000, mainly under the heads Land Revenue, Police, Excise and Forests. The treasuries were closed on account of holidays at the end of March 1918 with the result that the collections of land revenue for the year 1917-18 were about 6 lakhs below normal. These arrears were collected early in the current year. The recoveries of the cost of the additional police quartered in the areas responsible for the Bakr-Id disturbances of 1917 were responsible for the large increase of 6½ lakhs under the head of police. Improvements in the excise receipts were due to the enhancements of the rate of duty on opium and the extension of the contract distillery area. Contracts for the supply of timber for war purposes accounted for the growth of the forest receipts.

There was a net increase of Rs. 9,30,000 in provincial expenditure. More than 4 lakhs of this increase was spent on primary education, secondary schools and university colleges. Improvement of the health conditions of pilgrim centres and the expenses incurred in checking the influenza epidemic were responsible for an increase of over a lakh under the head of sanitation. The postponement of a large number of works under orders of the Government of India requiring strict economy during the period of the war reduced the expenditure on public works by more than 12 lakhs.

The total receipts under the more important heads of revenue are divided in fixed proportions between the Local Government and the Government of India. There was an increase in imperial receipts corresponding to the increase of provincial receipts but larger contributions were made, chiefly for agriculture, technical and primary education from imperial to provincial revenues which resulted in a small net decrease in imperial receipts.

Politics and Press.

**15.** The publication of the Montagu-Chelmsford Report created considerable interest which was enhanced by the selection of a member of the Patna Bar to be President of the all-India Special Session of the Congress. The Home Rule movement showed increased activity and continued to receive strong support from the bi-weekly *Searchlight* and other journals. The *Express* representing the more moderate views of the landowners class continued to be the only daily paper. A few meetings were held to condemn the Rowlatt Act and the Reforms also came in for a certain amount of criticism.

# PART II.

## THE REPORT.

# REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1918-19.

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# ADMINISTRATION OF BIHAR AND ORISSA, 1918-19.

## CHAPTER I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

*For—*

PHYSICAL FEATURES OF THE COUNTRY, AREA, CLIMATE AND CHIEF STAPLES.

HISTORICAL SUMMARY.

FORM OF ADMINISTRATION.

CHARACTER OF LAND TENURES; SYSTEM OF SURVEYS AND SETTLEMENTS.

CIVIL DIVISIONS OF BRITISH TERRITORY.

DETAILS OF THE LAST CENSUS, TRIBES AND LANGUAGES.

*See—*

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT FOR 1911-12, PART II, PAGES 1—129.

### The Lieutenant-Governor.

**1.** On the afternoon of the 4th April the Hon'ble Sir Edward Albert Gait, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., made over charge of his office as Lieutenant-Governor to the Hon'ble Sir Edward Vere Levinge, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., who held charge till the 12th August when Sir Edward Gait resumed office and held charge for the remainder of the year.

### Headquarters of Government and Lieutenant-Governor's Tours.

**2.** The Headquarters of the Government were located at Ranchi from the 6th April till the 10th November and at Patna for the remainder of the year. **Headquarters of Government.**

**3.** On the 5th April the Lieutenant-Governor left Patna on a visit to Puri, returning to Ranchi on the 28th April. **Tours.**

On the 2nd May His Honour left Ranchi for Patna, where a recruiting meeting was held, and returned to Ranchi on the 6th.

In September His Honour went on an extended recruiting tour in the Tirhut Division, visiting Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga and Champaran, holding recruiting meetings at District and Subdivisional headquarters and other places. Chapra and Hatwa were also visited, but owing to the bad weather prevailing the programme arranged had to be abandoned. Visiting Patna *en route*, His Honour returned to Ranchi on the 10th September.

In December the Lieutenant-Governor toured in Orissa, visiting Balasore, the Chilka Lake and Puri.

From the 13th to 19th January His Honour was the guest of His Excellency the Viceroy at Delhi, and attended conferences of the Heads of Provinces.

In February the Lieutenant-Governor visited the Palamau District.

### Changes in the Administration.

**4.** The Hon'ble Mr. Saiyid Sharf-ud-din, Member of the Executive Council of Bihar and Orissa, proceeded on leave on medical certificate for six months with effect from the 12th August 1918, and the Hon'ble Sir Saiyid **Executive Council.**

Ali Imam, K.C.S.I., was appointed to act in his place. The Hon'ble Mr. Saiyid Sharf-ud-din subsequently resigned his office with effect from the 12th February 1919 and the Hon'ble Sir Saiyid Ali Imam was confirmed in his appointment as Member of the Executive Council.

**Legislative Council.**

**5.** In March 1919, the term of office of the Additional Members of the Bihar and Orissa Legislative Council was extended for a period of one year with effect from the 29th June 1919.

**Indian Civil Service.**

**6.** Orders were received from the Secretary of State for India sanctioning the addition of a permanent post to the third grade of Magistrates and Collectors for the appointment of an Additional District Magistrate for the district of Manbhum with effect from the 27th August 1918.

**Superior Establishment of the Patna High Court.**

**7.** The experimental period of three years for which the superior establishment of the Patna High Court including the posts of Registrar, Deputy Registrar and Assistant Registrars, was sanctioned by the Secretary of State expired on the 1st March 1919, and the Government of India sanctioned the continuance of the present arrangement pending the orders of the Secretary of State on their recommendations for the permanent constitution of the superior establishment.

**Provincial and Subordinate Executive Services.**

**8.** (1) To meet the abnormal deficiency of officers employed on district administration in consequence of the deputation of a large number of officers of the Indian Civil Service and Provincial Civil Service under the Army Department, one more retired Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector was re-employed in September 1918 in addition to the five such officers employed in 1917-18. All these officers continued on duty throughout the year.

(2) Amendments were made in the rules for admission to the Executive Branch of the Provincial Civil Service and the Subordinate Executive Service in order to provide that probationers already in Government service whether holding permanent, temporary or officiating appointments, should draw subsistence allowance equal to the salary which they were drawing at the time of their appointment.

(3) One appointment was abolished in the cadre of the Subordinate Executive Service with effect from the 1st April 1918, when a post of Sub-Deputy Collector Auditor of Co-operative Societies was abolished in consequence of the deputation of a Deputy Collector to that Department.

**Departmental Examination of Government officers.**

**9.** Orders were issued to the effect that Departmental Examinations should be held at Patna only and the local centres at Ranchi and Cuttack were abolished.

**Ministerial or other appointments not filled under any special rule or order.**

**10.** In order to secure that a due share of appointments in Government offices should be given to natives of the province, orders were issued prescribing rules for the guidance of officers making appointments to ministerial or other posts in Bihar and Orissa which are not filled under any special rules or orders issued by or with the approval of the Local Government.

## Relations with Tributary States and Frontier Affairs.

### POLITICAL STATES OF CHOTA NAGPUR.

[Report on these States for the year 1918-19 by the Commissioner of the Chota Nagpur Division.]

Two states—1 Seraikela: area, 449 square miles; population, 109,794; total income from all sources Rs. 1,79,652; Chief, Raja Bahadur Udit Narayan Singh Deo, aged 70 years. 2. Kharsawan: area, 153 square miles; population, 38,852; total income from all sources, Rs. 57,408; Chief, Raj Sriram Chandra Singh Deo, aged 28 years.

**Administration.**

**11.** The two states continued under the administration of their respective Chiefs. In Seraikela the bulk of the administration work was performed by the Jubraj who showed great energy and ability. The Chief of Kharsawan took a keen interest in the administration of his state.

**Revenue.**

**12.** The percentage of total collection on the total demand and of the current collection on the current demand decreased in the Seraikela State from

83·52 and 61 to 72·39 and 54·75 and in Kharsawan from 84·76 and 90·55 to 70·31 and 77·26, respectively. The decrease is attributed to the failure of crops.

**13.** The number of police cases brought to trial increased in both the states. The average duration of trial of police cases increased in Seraikela from 9 to 15 days and decreased in Kharsawan from 10 to 9 days. In complaint cases Seraikela showed an improvement from 14 to 6 days, but in Kharsawan there was a slight increase. The number of civil suits disposed of decreased. There was an improvement in the average duration of the trial of contested and uncontested suits. Administration of justice.

**14.** In both the states there was a decrease in the average daily population. Jails.

**15.** Forest revenue increased in Seraikela from Rs. 13,726 to Rs. 23,660 and in Kharsawan from Rs. 4,233 to Rs. 9,851. Forests.

## Tributary and Feudatory States of Orissa.

[Report on the States for the year 1918-19 by the Commissioner of the Orissa Division.]

Number of states, 24; total area, 28,054 square miles; total population, 3,798,130; total income from all sources, Rs. 69,14,255.

**16.** The states of Baud, Daspalla, Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj, Nayagarh, Narsinghpur, Nilgiri, Pal Lahera and Gangpur continued under the management of Government. The states of Athgarh, Athmallik and Dhenkenal came under management owing to the death of their Chiefs and minority of their successors. The remaining 12 states, viz., Bamra, Baramba, Bonai, Hindol, Khandpara, Kalahandi, Patna, Rairakhol, Ranpur, Sonpur, Talcher and Tigiria were under the administration of their own Chiefs. Administration of land revenue.

In the collection of revenue two states showed an improvement over the last year in the percentage of collection on the current demand; in one state the collection was cent per cent and in the remaining states there was a falling off due to the failure of crops at the end of the year. While every effort was made to collect as much of the land revenue as could be paid without hardship, no coercive measures were taken to enforce payment in any state and in some of the worst affected States the collection of the last *kist* of the year was suspended.

**17.** Settlement operations were in progress in nine States but owing to failure of crops and consequent distress the work had to be postponed. The revision settlement work in the Keonjhar State was brought to a close and an increase of Rs. 2,24,879 in the revenue was obtained. Settlement.

**18.** The number of cases reported to the police increased in all the states except Keonjhar and Khandpara. The year was generally free from serious crime except for a few dacoity cases most of which occurred in Bonai, Keonjhar, Gangpur, Mayurbhanj and Kalahandi. Crime and Police.

The states were reported to be taking a genuine interest in improving their police administration and their efforts to that end have been attended with satisfactory results. Meetings for co-operative measures were held between the British police and the police of the states bordering on British districts.

**19.** The total number of cases brought to trial increased in 15 states, but in 11 of these the increase was very slight. In the remaining nine states there was a decrease which was most marked in the Patna State. The duration in the trial of police cases fell in 11 states and rose in 13 states. In the duration of complaint cases there was a very general improvement. Administration of justice.

The total number of civil suits disposed of was less than that of the previous year. The straitened agrarian conditions made it impossible to maintain the improvement previously reported in the prompt disposal of civil suits. All the states showed an increase in the average duration of both contested and uncontested suits. The increase was shared mainly by 14 states in contested suits and by 15 states in uncontested suits. The remaining states showed an improvement over the last year.

Jails.

**20.** The daily average of the population of the State jails increased; the increase was due to the increase of crime in consequence of the prevailing scarcity. The increase was contributed by 12 states, 11 states show a decrease and in one state the figure remains the same as in the previous year. The discipline of prisoners was good on the whole. Their health, however, was not so good as there were outbreaks of epidemics such as influenza and cholera in most of the jails.

Forests.

**21.** The forest revenue increased in 15 and decreased in 9 states. The Agency Forest Officer continued to do excellent work. The work of improving the forest staff of the states continues and the number of trained men is yearly increasing.

Excise.

**22.** Excise revenue increased in 15 states and decreased in 9 states. The decrease is nominal in 7 states and considerable in 2 states. No cases of smuggling was reported from the states. Only a few cases of illicit sale of excise drugs occurred.

Public Works.

**23.** There was smaller expenditure on public works owing to the necessity for conserving resources to provide funds for the relief of distress; but satisfactory progress was nevertheless made in the projects taken in hand.

Weather and crops: material condition of people.

**24.** The feature of the year was the failure of the crops owing to the deficient and badly distributed rainfall. The monsoon ceased abruptly about the middle of September with the result that the winter rice crop was badly damaged and no *rabi* crop could be sown for want of moisture in the soil. Arrangements were made early in October to meet the situation and the export of paddy and rice was prohibited: collection of land revenue was made only from those able to pay and the collection for the second period was suspended in the areas affected by the failure of crops; a census of food stocks was taken in November and December and again retaken later in the year; arrangements were made for the supply of rice to those states which required it and relief measures, e.g., distribution of *taccavi* loans, suspension of land revenue, the opening of test-works and grants of gratuitous relief were organized in all the states affected.

The year was further memorable for the severe epidemic of influenza which swept through the states—all states suffered severely, but in Mayurbhanj, Dhenkenal and Rairakhol the outbreak was particularly virulent.

Dispensaries.

**25.** The total number of patients treated in all the dispensaries of all the states increased. The popularity of dispensaries in the states is steadily increasing, and they are being attended by a large number of people.

Vaccination.

**26.** The outbreak of influenza compelled the restriction of vaccination to limited areas. The people are well protected against small-pox in the western states but not so completely in the Cuttack states where there is still some prejudice against revaccination.

Education.

**27.** There was a decrease in the number both of schools and of pupils attending them. Failure of crops led to the closure of various private schools. The policy of amalgamating small neighbouring schools into efficient central institutions was continued, and the weeding out of particularly bad attendants was insisted on. Female education has made satisfactory progress. Special attention was as usual paid to the education of Pan and other low caste children.

Education of Minor Chiefs.

**28.** The minor Chief of Mayurbhanj continued his course of practical training in the administration of the state. The loyal offer of his personal service in the war was accepted by Government and he was under orders to proceed to France at the end of October 1918. He actually reached Europe after hostilities had ceased and returned to the state after a tour in England and France. The minor Chief of Gangpur received training in the actual administration of the state; his brother continued to read at the Mayo College where the minor chief of Nilgiri is also reading. The son of the ex-Chief of Keonjhar continued to read at the Raj Kumar College at Raipur, as also did the minor chiefs of Daspalla, Narsinghpur, Pal Lahera and Baud. The minor chiefs of Dhenkenal, Athgarh and Athmallik joined the Raj Kumar College.

Mines and Minerals.

**29.** The exploitation of the mineral wealth of the states continued to develop. There is keen competition for prospecting licenses and mining leases among firms of repute.

War Loan.

**30.** The response of the states to the call to invest in the second Indian war loan was most gratifying. Since the end of the year additional contributions to the Imperial Indian Relief Fund have been made. Altogether the Feudatory States have contributed a sum of Rs. 79,18,084 for war purposes.

Recruitment for Labour Corps.

**31.** The total number of recruits enrolled for the Labour Corps amounted during the year to 2,598 against 1,380 in the previous year. Large number of recruits was obtained from Mayurbhanj, Gangpur, Patna, Keonjhar, Nayagarh, Athgarh, Nilgiri and Bamra states.

## Condition of the people.

[Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the province of Bihar and Orissa for the year 1918-19.]

**32.** The year under report was one of exceptional economic stress. Owing to the war, the prices of certain indispensable commodities, chiefly cloth, kerosine oil and salt, reached unprecedented heights, while those of food-grains underwent violent changes. Early in the year, owing to restrictions on railway transport, the fairly plentiful crops of the previous year could not be exported. The result was a serious glut in local markets and a consequent heavy fall in prices, so that in certain areas the cultivators could not sell the produce of their lands to enable them to pay their rents. This was followed by a violent reaction when Government took over control of railway traffic and reorganized it and the accumulated stocks were exported in feverish haste. The result was most unfortunate in view of the general failure of the *bhadai* winter and *rabi* crops which followed. Owing to the excessive rainfall of the early monsoon, its sudden cessation afterwards and the total failure of the *Hathia* rains, the harvests of the principal food-crops of the year yielded an outturn far below normal and an unprecedented rise occurred in the prices of food-grains. This has not yet been arrested in spite of Government control and importation of rice from Burma. The middle classes with fixed incomes have been very hard hit while the poorer cultivators and the landless classes are in acute distress. The situation will not be relieved until the next crop is assured. To alleviate the situation and to check profiteering, Government introduced a system of control over the salt, coal and kerosine oil trades and made arrangements for the import and sale of cotton cloth at cheap rates, both in public offices and at mufassal centres. Standard cloth was obtained from the Bombay mills and has become popular in certain districts. Recruitment of labourers for Mesopotamia and overseas also helped to relieve the situation. The expansion of the coal, mica and iron industries in the Chota Nagpur Division did much to assist the labouring population by providing employment at good wages.

General health was fairly good during the earlier part of the year but the outbreak of influenza, which occurred in autumn, proved a veritable scourge. In spite of the efforts which were made to help the poor with medical advice, and the free distribution of medicines, the mortality caused by the epidemic exceeded all known records, especially in out-of-the-way tracts of Chota Nagpur, which are not easily accessible. Malarial fever claimed a very heavy toll from the district of Saran. The districts of Monghyr and Bhagalpur suffered heavily from plague, but it was less virulent than usual in Saran and Darbhanga. There were many sporadic outbreaks of cholera and small-pox which also resulted in a considerable number of deaths.

# CHAPTER II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

## Realization of the Revenue.

[Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Province of Bihar and Orissa for the year 1918-1919.]

**Collection of Land Revenue.**

**33.** The total number of estates paying Land Revenue increased from 109,172 to 110,575, mainly on account of partitions. The current demand amounted to Rs. 1,52,10,688, showing an increase of Rs. 45,248 over the preceding year accruing mainly from temporarily settled estates. The percentage of the total collections on total demand increased from 93·1 to 95·88, partly owing to the adjustment during the year of collection made on the 2nd April 1918 for the March *kist* of the preceding year. A sum of Rs. 39,601 was remitted during the year, a portion of which represented concessions granted to tenants who enlisted for military service during the war.

**Operations of the Sale Law.**

**34.** The number of estates which became liable to sale for non-payment of land revenue was 8,291, or 192 more than in the preceding year. But the number of estates actually sold decreased from 462 to 414. The prices realized averaged 10·4 times the Government revenue compared with 10·6 times in 1917-18. Fifteen estates with a combined revenue demand of Rs. 1,547 were bought in on behalf of Government, 102 appeals were filed before the Commissioners, 15 were successful, and 13 cases were recommended to the Board for annulment on the ground of hardship, all these recommendations being accepted by the Board. There were seven cases of sale of *chaukidari chakran* lands all in the district of Monghyr. No estate was sold in Sambalpur for arrears of revenue under the Central Provinces Land Revenue Act.

**Redemption of Land Revenue.**

**35.** There was no case of redemption of Land Revenue in any district.

**Miscellaneous Revenue.**

**36.** The total collections of miscellaneous revenue, including those from forest lands in Government estates, decreased from Rs. 9,84,486 to Rs. 7,08,803. This heavy fall in the total receipts was due to a decline under all heads except royalties, police contributions and other receipts which showed a marked increase. The chief factor in this fall was a decrease in the recovery of survey and Settlement charges. The total amount of remissions decreased from Rs. 23,387 to Rs. 11,586.

**Sale of Government estates.**

**37.** There were no sales of Government land in any districts of the Orissa and Chota Nagpur Divisions. Altogether 19 estates covering an area of 411·873 acres were sold for Rs. 30,452 in other parts of the province.

**Payment of Revenue and Rent by money orders.**

**38.** Money orders issued for the payments of land revenue and cesses and the amounts covered by them rose from 183,052, and Rs. 14,12,639 to 183,216 and Rs. 15,82,016, respectively. The average value of orders went up from Rs. 7·71 to 8·63, which indicates that the system is steadily gaining popularity. The percentage of refusals fell from 20·2 in 1917-18 to 19·8.

**Certificate procedure.**

**39.** The total number of certificates filed excluding those for cess, rose from 34,378 to 38,875. Disposal did not keep pace with institutions in any of the Divisions as a large number of cases were filed during the latter part of the year. The total number of cases pending at the close of the year rose from 7,831 to 10,735 and those pending over six months from 1,535 to 1,575. The number of sales set aside increased from 277 to 337.

**40.** The number of applications filed for registration of succession of proprietary interest in lands rose from 43,741 to 51,316, while 9,990 cases were pending from the preceding year. 43,958 applications were disposed of and the number pending at the close of the year increased from 9,990 to 14,495. **Land Registration.**

In Sambalpur, 502 mutations were registered under section 125 of the Central Provinces Land Revenue Act, 1881. The registers are generally reported to be in good order and progress in rewriting has been made in several districts. No case of fraudulent registration was brought to light.

**41.** The number of partition cases instituted and disposed of were 407 and 410. The figures for 1917-18 were 439 and 442, respectively. The number of cases pending at the close of the year fell from 989 to 986 and those pending for over two years from 317 to 252. **Partition.**

## Surveys.

[Report on the Survey and Settlement Operations in the Province of Bihar and Orissa, for the year ending the 30th September 1919.]

**42.** The programme of the traverse survey was 630 square miles in the district of Manbhum, the cost rate being Rs. 42.a square mile against Rs. 37·3 in 1917-18. Ten miscellaneous petty surveys were undertaken and completed. **Outturn of the year.**

**43.** The imperial standard mapping section was employed throughout the year on the compilation and fair mapping of 2 inch and 1½ inch originals for reduction to the inch scale as well as completion of margins and the insertions of hills of such sheets already published as were not complete in these respects, the data for the above being supplied from old materials and 16 inch cadastral survey sheets. **Bihar and Orissa Drawing Office.**

In the provincial section the district map of Ranchi was completed and the preparation of the map of the district of Gaya was taken in hand.

Thirteen thana maps on 24 sheets falling in the districts of Hazaribagh, Gaya, Singhbhum and Palamau were compiled and the revision of the thana map of Motihari in the district of Champaran was taken in hand. As in the case of last year there was an increase in the cost rate due to the rise in the price of paper and to the grant of war and grain compensation allowances to the staff.

## Land Records and Settlements.

[Report of the Director of Land Records and Surveys, Bihar and Orissa, for the year ending the 30th September 1919.]

**44.** Survey and Settlement operations were in progress during the year in five districts of the province. 784 square miles in the district of Manbhum were cadastrally surveyed and preliminary records were prepared for the same area. No revisional survey was carried out during the year. The records of 1,010 square miles were attested and those of 1,811 square miles were finally published. The rents of 242,310 tenants were settled. The expenditure of the year amounted to Rs. 5,29,738. **General.**

**45.** The revisional survey and settlement operations in the district of Muzaffarpur, which were postponed for two years will be taken up in 1920-21. **Future programme.**

The revisional settlement in the district of Angul has been postponed till 1921-22 owing to the recent famine in the district. Similarly, in Orissa and Sambalpur, the revisional operations have been postponed for one year and the programme extended over six instead of three years.

**46.** Out of three settlement officers employed two were civilian officers in charge of the major operations in North Bihar and Chota Nagpur and the other was a Deputy Collector in charge of the revisional settlement operations of the Banki Government Estate in Cuttack. The maximum number of assistant settlement officers employed was 74 against 82 in 1917-18 of whom 50 were employed in North Bihar, 23 in Chota Nagpur and one in the Banki Government estate. One junior civilian and three munsifs were deputed for settlement training during the year. **Settlement Staff.**

Final Reports.

**47.** The final reports on the survey and settlement operations in the district of Shahabad and in parganas Barahabhum and Patkum in the district of Manbhum were submitted to the Government of India.

Chota Nagpur Settlement, Programme and Staff.

**48.** Survey and Settlement Operations were in progress in the districts of Manbhum and Palamau throughout the year. The staff during the field season included two civilian officers, one covenanted assistant settlement officer in charge, 7 deputy collectors, one munsif and 9 sub-deputy collectors. The number of assistant settlement officers employed during the field season and recess was 24 and 9 respectively.

Palamau.

**49.** The programme in Palamau consisted of disposal of objections under sections 83 (1) and 111 (*b*) of the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act, final publication of the records of 969 square miles, recovery of costs of the settlement operations by certificate procedure, disposal of post publication suits and settlement of fair rents under section 85 (2) (*i*) and section 85 (2) (*ii*) of the Act and computation of cost of the settlement operations of 2,116 square miles.

Recovery of costs.

**50.** The recovery of costs in the third season's area was on account of the bad season and the high prices of food-stuffs postponed to the coming field season. The actual realization during the year was Rs. 12,516.

Manbhum.

**51.** The programme of the year consisted of cadastral survey and khanapuri of 784 square miles comprising the whole of the thanas Manbazar, Gaurandi, portion of thana Purulia and the whole of pargana Koilabad in thana Barahabhum.

Cost.

**52.** The cost rate of the cadastral survey and khanapuri works out at Rs. 272·90 a square mile, the high incidence being due to the large number of plots per square mile, the grant of grain compensation allowance to the staff and the increased rates which it was found necessary to pay for survey and record writing.

North Bihar revision settlement, Saran and Champaran.

**53.** In North Bihar revisional operations were in progress in the two districts of Saran and Champaran.

Operations in Saran and cost.

**54.** In Saran the operations comprised attestation, disposal of 103-A objections, final publication, case work under sections 40, 105 and 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act and recovery of settlement costs. The records of 1,664 villages of the Sadr Subdivision and 4 villages of the Siwan Subdivision containing 893·10 square miles and 2,369,568 plots were attested during the year. The revaluation of the estates and tenures of the Siwan Subdivision was completed under chapter IIA of the Cess Act, and the valuation rolls were published during the final publication of the record-of-rights.

The total expenditure during the year was Rs. 3,43,371.

Recovery of costs.

**55.** In the Gopalganj subdivision Rs. 3,27,184 was recovered during the year, while the recovery operations in Siwan subdivision will commence during the cold weather.

Deposit of records.

**56.** All the volumes of the records-of-rights of the Gopalganj subdivision (thanas Mirganj and Gopalganj) and the case records of thana Mirganj have been deposited in the collectorate during the year.

Champaran.

**57.** In the district of Champaran the programme consisted of case work under sections 40, 105, 106 and 108 of the Bengal Tenancy Act, recovery of settlement cost in the villages affected by section 4 of the Champaran Agrarian Act, disposal of objections under statutory rule 12 framed under that Act, of applications under section 3 of the Act and noting of case decisions in the record-of-rights.

Recovery of costs.

**58.** The total recoverable demand of the whole district was Rs. 8,21,632-4-3 and it is satisfactory to note that the whole demand has been recovered.

Deposit of records and noting of case decisions.

**59.** All the volumes of the record-of-rights, disputes and statistical registers have been deposited in the collectorate and a major portion of all case records under the Champaran Agrarian Act have also been deposited.

**60.** The programme for the Banki Government estate consisted of attestation and draft publication, disposal of objections under section 116 of the Orissa Tenancy Act, recess work of the attested records, correction and retouching of original maps for final reproduction, preparation of schedule for rent settlement, and *Safai* and final publication. The whole programme was completed excepting rent settlement, *Safai* and final publication. Settlement of fair rents was in progress. Banki Government estate in Cuttack.

**61.** The total expenditure exclusive of auxiliary and indirect charges during the year was Rs. 11,799. The cost rate for each square mile excluding auxiliary and indirect charges comes to Rs. 70-9-0 against Rs. 108-13-0 in the preceding year. Expenditure.

**62.** New maps were prepared during the year for 320 villages covering an area of 518 square miles and records were prepared for 331 villages containing 319,944 plots. New maps and records have now been prepared for the whole district with the exception of an area of about 100 square miles which could not be taken up during the year. Two drawing offices were opened for inking up the maps—one at Sambalpur and another at Bargarh. Most of the patwaris have now been trained in drawing and the maps prepared by them are quite neat and clean. Good conduct allowances were sanctioned for 81 patwaris and allowance of Rs. 2 per month was given to all patwaris who worked in recess. Maintenance of land records in Sambalpur.

**63.** The marks situated in the Government estates were, as in previous years, found undisturbed except in one or two districts. The reports of the inspection of boundary marks situated in the private estates disclose a very satisfactory state of affairs. Maintenance of boundary marks.

## Government Estates.

[Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Province of Bihar and Orissa for the year 1918-19.]

**64.** The total number of estates under direct management including 59 estates managed by Government for private individuals increased from 303 to 315 and the current demand from Rs. 18,53,703 to Rs. 18,69,083. Expenses rose from Rs. 1,43,655 to Rs. 1,48,683 and the percentage on current demand from 7·74 to 7·95. Number and management of Government Estates.

**65.** Out of the total expenditure of Rs. 1,43,273, Rs. 23,627 were spent on tanks and wells, Rs. 30,200 on drainage, irrigation and embankments, Rs. 40,945 on roads and bridges and the remainder Rs. 48,501 on miscellaneous objects including treeplanting. Angul received special grants of Rs. 10,519 from hide license fees for works of improvement, Rs. 1,000 for village water-supply and Rs. 2,765 for petty local works of improvement. Improvements.

**66.** In accordance with the decision of Government to pay to the district boards cess at the full rate of 6¼ per cent on the total amount of rent collected in estates the property of Government, grants on account of primary education and improvement of roads and communications have been discontinued except in the districts of Angul and Sambalpur and in the Damin-i-koh Government estate in the district of the Santal Parganas. The grants in the districts of Angul and Sambalpur were fully utilized. Communications were maintained in proper efficiency under the district boards and road committees. Education, roads and communications.

**67.** Generally speaking, the material condition of the tenants in the Government estates was unsatisfactory; the failure of crops more or less serious in practically all estates, combined with the abnormally high prices of the necessaries of life, produced a good deal of distress among the poorer classes of the tenantry. Insufficient rainfall and the untimely cessation of the rains resulted in a considerable failure of the paddy crop in almost all estates in Gaya and Shahabad and the *rabi* crop also was not good. In Patna Conditions of raiyats.

the lands in the Government estates are largely diaras which yielded a good *bhadai* harvest and a fair *rabi* crop. The condition of the tenants in Saran was more satisfactory as crops were fair. In Monghyr a fair *rabi* crop of wheat, gram and barley made up for a poor *bhadai*. In the Santal Parganas scarcity was relieved by money received from the labour corps and by emigration to tea gardens and coal-mines. Loans under the Agriculturists' Loans Act were given freely to cultivators and various works of improvements were started in order to provide employment for labourers. Sambalpur, Khurda and Puri fared better. In Chota Nagpur Division employment was available to relieve distress in the mica mines and factories. Emigration was widespread from Ranchi and Palamau. Influenza played havoc in all divisions, though Tirhut suffered least. There were outbreaks of cholera in Orissa, Purnea and Singhbhum. A few cases of small-pox occurred in Singhbhum and of malaria in Orissa and Purnea. No cases of cattle disease have been reported from any Government estate.

## Wards, Attached, Trust and Encumbered Estates.

[Report on the Administration of Wards, Attached, Trust and Encumbered Estates for the year 1918-19.]

**Number of estates under management.**

**68.** Two new estates were taken under management during the year and twelve were released. The total number of estates under management at the close of the year was 138 of which 86 were managed under the Chota Nagpur Encumbered Estates Act, 1876.

**Payment of Government demands.**

**69.** The percentage of the payment of revenue and cesses due to Government was 92·6 of the total demand.

**Rent and cesses due to superior landlords.**

**70.** The percentage of payment of rent and cesses to superior landlords was 52·05 as against 61·9 in the preceding year.

**Collection of rent and cesses due to estates.**

**71.** The percentage of collections on the current demand was 95·3 as against 93·1 in the preceding year, the standard of 100 per cent being exceeded only in the Patna and Tirhut divisions.

**Balances of rent and cesses due to estates.**

**72.** The outstanding balances of rent and cesses due to all estates amounted to Rs. 46,59,554 or 82·5 per cent on the current demand as compared with 83·5 per cent in the preceding year. The poor collections are partly explained by the influenza epidemic and by the widespread failure of crops.

**Management charges.**

**73.** In the percentage of the cost of management on the current rent and cess demand there was a small increase from 11·2 in the preceding year to 12·1 per cent in the current year, the standard of 10 per cent being exceeded in the Patna, Tirhut and Orissa divisions.

**Improvements.**

**74.** The total amount spent on works of improvement was Rs. 1,13,438 and that on schools, dispensaries and charities was Rs. 1,32,612. The decrease in collections and the heavy indebtedness in many of the estates made the problem of re-expenditure on charity and improvements a difficult one.

**Education of Wards.**

**75.** The education of wards continued to receive attention and obtained generally satisfactory results.

## Revenue and Rent-paying Classes.

[Land Revenue Administration Report, 1918-19.]

**Tenancy Acts.**

**76.** Draft amending Bills of the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act and of the Bengal Tenancy Act have been drawn up and are under the consideration of the Local Government.

**Relation between landlords and tenants.**

**77.** Special officers have been appointed to try the large number of applications for commutation of produce rent to money rent in the district of Gaya. Relations between landlords and tenants in the district of Champaran have decidedly improved since the passing of the Champaran Agrarian Act, but there has been a general tendency on the part of the tenants to withhold rents, to check which it was found necessary to grant to certain landlords facilities for realization through the revenue courts.

Failure on the part of landlords to issue proper rent receipts continues to be a source of friction with their tenants.

In Palamau the original settlement operations are nearly finished, but it is as yet impossible to foresee the far-reaching effects which the record-of-rights and the settlement of fair rents may produce.

Special enquiries were made into the prevalence of the *kamiauti* system under which agricultural labourers in return for a small advance bind themselves to work for particular masters for indefinite periods. The enquiries revealed that the system was widespread in Palamau and common in nearly all districts of the province. To mitigate the evils of the system, the Local Government have framed a Bill which is now under the consideration of the Government of India.

# CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION.

## Legislative Council.

[Also refer for this to Bihar and Orissa Administration Report, 1911-12, Chapter III, pages 144—148.]

Legislative Council.

**78.** The only change in the personnel of the non-official members of the Council was that the Hon'ble Mr. J. H. Pattinson replaced the Hon'ble Mr. M. Watson-Smyth who had resigned his seat as the representative of the Mining Community.

### COURSE OF LEGISLATION.

Course of legislation.

**79.** Five meetings of the Legislative Council were held during the year. The Bihar and Orissa Irrigation Bill, 1918, and the Bihar and Orissa Primary Education Bill, 1918, which were pending at the close of the preceding year, and the Bihar and Orissa Legislative Rules Amendment Bill, 1918, and the Bihar and Orissa Food Adulteration Bill, 1918, which were introduced during the year, were passed into law.

The Bihar and Orissa Food Adulteration Act.

**80.** The Bihar and Orissa Food Adulteration Act, 1919, penalizes the sale and the manufacture of any article of food and drink (other than drugs or water) intended for human consumption, which is not genuine or which is below a certain standard.

The Bihar and Orissa Legislative Rules Amendment Bill.

**81.** The Bihar and Orissa Legislative Rules Amendment Bill, 1918, as passed into law, amended Rules 54 and 55 of the Bihar and Orissa Legislative Rules, 1912.

## Police.

[The Report on the Administration of the Police Department for the year 1918.—Statistics of British India, Part VI.—Administrative and Judicial.]

Civil Police.

**82.** There was no change in the sanctioned cadre of the superior police service. One officer retired on the 13th May 1918, and the Lieutenant-Governor in Council regrets to record the death of Mr. H. Randle, Assistant Superintendent of Police, who was killed in action in France on the 4th November 1918. At the close of the year eighteen officers of the superior police service were serving with the army out of a cadre of fifty-seven. The orders of the Secretary of State were received abolishing the grades in the Imperial Police, and placing the service on a time scale of pay.

During the year 51 officers and 313 men, were added to the sanctioned strength of the subordinate police force, which on 31st December 1918 was 14,691. These increases were mainly in the armed reserves. The actual strength, however, fell short of the sanctioned strength by 121 officers and 918 men owing to the transfer, towards the close of the year, of over 900 men to the 1—133rd (Bihar and Orissa) Regiment: this regiment has since been disbanded and the men reabsorbed. The casualties in the force amounted to 8·2 per cent against 6·5 per cent in 1917. The increase is accounted for by a larger number of deaths and resignations. The force suffered from last year's influenza epidemic, but its health generally was good.

The literacy of the force was 99 per cent amongst officers and 60 per cent amongst men, and the Inspector-General reported that the educational qualifications of the newly-enlisted Sub-Inspectors were fairly satisfactory. The efforts that were made to attract a better stamp of candidate did not meet with much success and the majority of the newly-recruited Sub-Inspectors did not reach the desired standard either in social status or personal qualifications.

During the year three Deputy Superintendents of Police in the service of the Nepal Darbar were trained and then posted to districts for a course of instruction.

**Military Police.**

**83.** A third temporary company of Military Police, the formation of which was sanctioned during the year, was raised and stationed at Hazaribagh. The conduct and discipline of all three companies were satisfactory. Detachments of Military Police were employed on precautionary duties during the Bakr-Id and the Muharram festivals. A detachment of the Ranchi Company was deputed to Hazaribagh to assist in the arrest of the Sikh prisoners who had escaped from the Central Jail in that district, and another detachment of the same company took part in the suppression of the Kishan rising in the Sirguja State in the Central Provinces. On all occasions the men acquitted themselves well.

**Additional Police.**

**84.** Additional Police were quartered at various periods of the year in the districts of Patna, Shahabad, Gaya, Darbhanga, Monghyr and Bhagalpur. In the first three districts they were maintained under the arrangements made after the Bakr-Id disturbances of 1917. In the Aurangabad subdivision of the district of Gaya the additional police force was withdrawn on the 2nd July 1918, and in the Patna district on the 15th October 1918. It was necessary to post a force of additional police for three and a half months in Monghyr and Bhagalpur to safeguard the railway embankment against mischief by villagers during the flood season.

**Discipline.**

**85.** There was a decrease in the number of officers and men rewarded and also in judicial and departmental punishments. No officers were punished judicially; while among the men, the judicial punishments under the Penal Code and the Police Act fell from 112 to 96. In departmental proceedings against officers major punishments, which include dismissals, rose from 83 to 98, while in the case of proceedings against men they fell from 446 to 435. The percentages of officers and men punished were 38 and 28 respectively against 40 and 31 in 1917; and the percentages rewarded were 34 and 14 respectively against 39 and 14. The number of charges brought by private persons against the police increased from 132 to 160. In the great majority of these cases local magisterial inquiry was made. Ninety cases were found to be false or were dismissed under section 203, Criminal Procedure Code, and two cases were still pending at the close of the year. Of the remainder, nine were entered as true, fourteen were compromised or withdrawn and twenty-eight ended in acquittal. Three cases were not sent up for want of sufficient evidence and fourteen convictions were obtained. Of the 229 officers and men in the subordinate police implicated in these charges 3 head-constables and 14 constables only were found guilty by the courts. Departmental action was taken in 39 cases which had been declared true or were compromised.

**Rural Police.**

**86.** The rural police continued to perform their duties with moderate efficiency. The most notable achievement, for which they are entitled to credit, was the recapture by chaukidars in Shahabad of one of the six Sikh revolutionaries who had escaped from the Hazaribagh Jail. In Orissa caste distinctions are more marked than in Chota Nagpur or Bihar; and since the chaukidars of that division belong almost entirely to the untouchable classes, their work suffers owing to the wider gulf between themselves and the other villagers. The balances of the Chaukidari Reward Fund were reduced in most districts but were still excessive in Angul, Champaran, Purnea, Cuttack, Ranchi, Manbhum and Singhbhum. The working of the Presidents in districts in which extended powers have been conferred on them was again commented upon unfavourably.

**Ordinary Crime.**

**87.** There was a heavy increase from 213 to 408 in the number of dacoity cases but the latter figure includes 121 cases which though entered in the returns of 1918, referred to offences which were committed in the previous year at the time of the Bakr-Id disturbances. All districts except five recorded an increase for which high prices were held responsible. Much the most

serious outbreak was in Manbhum where the number rose from 81 to 138. These Manbhum dacoities were largely the handiwork of the notorious Bhumij gang, three of whose leaders after escape from the Purulia Jail in 1917, were recaptured, convicted and sentenced to transportation for life. Two other members of the gang were sentenced to ten years' rigorous imprisonment each, while 216 persons were bound down under section 110, Criminal Procedure Code. Action against the remainder was pending at the close of the year. The continued prevalence of dacoity although no doubt attributable in part to scarcity conditions, pointed to the necessity for further preventive measures which have since been undertaken.

There was an appreciable fall in the number of cases of robbery from 206 to 160. This form of crime was most common in the Hazaribagh District, where Gopi Bhuiya and his gang were at work. This desperado's adventurous career was finally ended by his chief accomplice who quarrelled with him and killed him. To the break-up of this gang must be ascribed the decrease of no less than 73 robbery cases in the district.

The number of cases of burglary rose from 15,951 in 1917 to 17,643, an increase of 10 per cent; this increase occurred chiefly in the Tirhut Division (twenty-six per cent) and Patna Division (fifteen per cent), where it was ascribed to the rise in price of cloth and food-stuffs. Out of 882 cases tried, 87 per cent ended in conviction against 86 in 1917.

The number of cognizable cases in which property was reported to have been stolen increased from 25,948 in 1917 to 27,365 and of those in which property was recovered from 7,178 to 7,489. The value of the property stolen was reported to be Rs. 23,42,961 : this includes over 9 lakhs reported in Shahabad and Gaya, where the greater portion represents the loot taken by the rioters in the Bakr-Id disturbances.

False Cases.

**88.** The proportion of cases declared maliciously false to the total reported crime was 3·1 against 3·2 in 1917. The districts of Patna, Shahabad and Gaya showed a substantial rise in the number of false cases and the proportion was also high in Palamau and Purnea. The lowest percentage was in the Orissa Division where it nowhere exceeded 1·8 per cent. The percentage of prosecutions to false cases was 9 against 13 in 1917 and of convictions 40 against 33. Purnea was not able to secure convictions in more than seven per cent of its prosecutions, a most unsatisfactory result.

The work of the Criminal Investigation Department in prosecuting the authors of fraudulent civil suits was reported to be receiving a greater measure of public support and the conviction of the four persons found guilty of bringing such suits is satisfactory.

Remands.

**89.** The percentage of cases disposed of at the first three hearings fell from 66 in 1917 to 62, while the percentage of those remanded more than six times rose to 5·4. Seven districts were mainly responsible for this poor result.

Political Crime.

**90.** The province was free from revolutionary crime, but during the first six months in particular the Special Branch of the Criminal Investigation Department was energetically engaged in countering the efforts of revolutionaries from Bengal to seek refuge in Bihar and Orissa and spread their propaganda by the establishment of local centres. No less than twenty-two of these undesirable refugees were at work and all had been accounted for by November. At the same time it was necessary to take action against twenty-nine local adherents who had harboured and assisted these revolutionary agents. Practically all were raw and impressionable youths of the student class in Patna, Bhagalpur and Muzaffarpur. One was made a State prisoner under Regulation III of 1818, three were interned in foreign domicile, two were released, and the remainder interned in home domicile. Home domicile was intended to be a mild form of internment, but it did not in all cases prove a success, as the detenu was still in touch with his old associations from which he was unable to rid himself. This led to the establishment of a school for detenus at Mahilong in the Ranchi district, which was started in October 1918 with

ten pupils (subsequently increased to thirteen) taken from among the detenus in home domicile. The object of the school was to place the youthful offender in good surroundings, provide him with healthy interests and a sound education, and by this means to give him a more wholesome mentality and reclaim him from the contaminating associations which were distorting his views and ruining his character. The school was most successful and the results reflected great credit on those responsible for its management. The co-operation of the Bengal Intelligence Branch to which so large a part of the success is due, was very highly appreciated.

The Police contributed 9 British Officers and 900 men to the 1—133rd (Bihar and Orissa) Regiment under the command of Lt.-Col. McDowell, I.A., Superintendent of Police. The headquarters of the Regiment were at Nathnagar in the Bhagalpur District and no labour was spared to bring it to a high state of efficiency. The favourable reports of the General Officer Commanding, Presidency Brigade, on its military bearing were particularly gratifying. The regiment was disbanded on the general demobilization in April of the present year, after it had been in existence for six months only, but this short experience of military training will prove a valuable future asset in the training and discipline of the police.

## Mortality caused by wild animals and snakes.

[Report on the mortality caused by wild animals and venomous snakes and the measures adopted for their destruction in Bihar and Orissa during the year 1918.]

**Wild animals.**

**91.** The number of persons killed by wild animals was 565 against 655 in the previous year. The decrease was shared by all the districts except Manbhum, Ranchi, Puri, Champaran and Saran. As in the previous year, tigers alone accounted for more than one-half of the deaths and the districts mainly responsible were Angul, Ranchi, Singhbhum, Manbhum, Cuttack, Hazaribagh and Sambalpur. There was a decrease in the number of persons killed by tigers in the Orissa and Chota Nagpur Divisions.

**Snakes.**

**92.** The number of deaths from snake-bite was 5,256 against 5,885 in 1917. The figures still continued to be high in almost all the districts.

**Destruction of wild animals.**

**93.** The number of wild animals destroyed fell from 1,040 to 699. The rewards paid for the destruction of wild animals and snakes was Rs. 4,741 against Rs. 5,921 in the previous year.

## Criminal Justice.

**Judicial and Magisterial Staff.**

**94.** Twelve Sessions Judges were employed throughout the year. An Additional District and Sessions Judge was sanctioned for Shahabad for six months but was employed only from the 12th August to the 22nd October 1918. An Additional District and Sessions Judge was appointed in Muzaffarpur from the 18th July till the end of the year. A second Additional District and Sessions Judge was also appointed in the same district from the 17th to the 23rd December 1918.

The Magisterial staff of the province at the close of the year consisted of 229 stipendiary and 310 Honorary Magistrates. Of the Honorary Magistrates three were Special Magistrates under section 14 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, who tried cases only under the Irrigation and Embankment Acts. Of the 229 stipendiary Magistrates 143 exercised first, 55 second and 31 third class powers.

**Offences reported.**

**95.** There were 94, 673 criminal offences reported during the year consisting of 63,270 offences under the Penal Code, and 31,403 under special and local laws. These figures are less than those of 1917 by 1,389 and 1,686 respectively. There was an increase in the number of offences in 6 districts only, the largest being in Champaran (1,140) and Manbhum (451). In Champaran the increase occurs both under the heads "Special and Local Laws" (648) and "the Penal Code" (492), while in Manbhum the increase was general under almost all the heads of offences under the Penal Code and is said to have been due to the large increase in prices. The most noteworthy decrease occurred in Muzaffarpur (940), Purnea (925), Monghyr (679) and

Puri (344). In Muzaffarpur the decrease was mainly under the head "Special and Local Laws". In Purnea the decrease was mainly in offences under the Penal Code, and is attributed by the District Magistrate to the fact that the cultivating classes obtained better prices from agricultural produce, including jute. In Monghyr the decrease was chiefly in offences under the Penal Code and is attributed to the good rains of 1917. In Puri the decrease is said to have been due to the good crops of the previous year and the restrictions on the export of food-crops.

Cases found to be false.

**96.** The number of cases which were found to be false, or in which complaints were dismissed, during the year was 22,394 or 22·5 per cent of the number reported as compared with 23·3 per cent in 1917. Complaints dismissed in 20,597 cases, or 150 more than in 1917. The number of cases declared to be false after trial or inquiry was 1,797 or 649 less than in 1917.

Cases found to be true.

**97.** Of the total number of cases under inquiry during the year, 72,444 were found to be true, and of these 58,060 were brought to trial, showing a decrease of 2,140 and 2,050 respectively as compared with 1917.

## Original Jurisdiction.

### I.—Magistrates' Courts.

Cases disposed of.

**98.** At the opening of the year, 1,716 cases were pending before Magistrates. During the year 58,040 cases were brought to trial including references under sections 347 and 349 of the Code of Criminal Procedure; 57,703 cases were disposed of and 2,011 remained pending at the close of the year. The number of cases decided during the year is less than that of 1917 by 2,331. The number of cases brought to trial during the year is less than that of 1917 by 2,071. The decrease was mainly under the head "Special and Local Laws" (1,832). It was most marked in Muzaffarpur (591), Darbhanga (511) and Balasore (437). An increase was reported from 6 districts and was most marked in Champaran (930) and Shahabad (421).

The disposals were distributed as follows :—

| | Tried regularly. | Tried summarily. |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| District Magistrates... ... ... ... | 35 | 3 |
| Subordinate Stipendiary Magistrates ... ... | 39,341 | 6,183 |
| Honorary Magistrates ... ... ... | 7,540 | 107 |
| Benches of Magistrates ... ... ... | 2,995 | 1,428 |
| Special Magistrates ... ... ... | 5 | ... |

Of the cases tried regularly by District Magistrates, the Deputy Commissioner and the Additional Deputy Commissioner of Hazaribagh and the Deputy Commissioner and the Additional Magistrate of Palamau disposed of 23 cases in exercise of special powers under section 30 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. The Sadr Subdivisional Officer of Hazaribagh also disposed of 16 cases under these special powers.

Results of trials.

**99.** Of the total number of cases shown in the preceding paragraph 503 were committed or referred to the Sessions and 57,200 were finally disposed of by Magistrates. In these latter, 93,987 persons were accused, as against

95,437 in the previous year, and of these, 42,531 or 45·2 per cent were convicted and 51,456 or 54·7 per cent were acquitted or discharged. The figures for 1917 were 47·07 per cent and 52·93 per cent respectively. These figures have to be qualified by the statement that out of 51,456 persons acquitted or discharged, the cases of no less than 34,823 were compounded, withdrawn or dismissed for default. The percentage of convictions, therefore, of persons actually tried was 71·8 which is 3·2 per cent more than in 1917.

Of the persons tried for offences under the Indian Penal Code, 18,779 or 31·6 per cent were convicted and 40,619 or 68·4 per cent were acquitted or discharged. Excluding the cases of 24,574 persons compounded, withdrawn or dismissed for default, the percentage of convictions was 53·9 against 51·8 in the previous year.

The total number of persons awaiting trial before Magistrates at the close of 1918 was 4,686 as compared with 4,421 in 1917. The number of persons in custody at the close of the year was 460, as against 435 at the end of 1917.

The general result of trial before Magistrates of each class was as follows :—

| — | Acquitted or discharged. | Convicted. | Percentage of convictions. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Benches of Magistrates ... ... | 2,483 | 3,774 | 60·3 |
| Subordinate Stipendiary Magistrates ... | 43,713 | 32,363 | 42·5 |
| Honorary Magistrates ... ... ... | 5,133 | 6,246 | 54·8 |
| Special Magistrates ... ... ... | 9 | 27 | 75 |
| District Magistrates ... ... ... | 118 | 121 | 50·6 |

Of the persons shown above as convicted the following were tried summarily :—by Benches of Magistrates, 1,240, by Subordinate Stipendiary Magistrates, 5,713, by Honorary Magistrates, 141 and by District Magistrates 3.

The mode of trial of the total number of persons convicted and the nature of the sentences passed were as follows :—

| — | Appealable sentences. | | Non-appealable sentences. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1917 | 1918 | 1917 | 1918 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| On regular trial ... ... ... | 24,141 | 24,397 | 11,937 | 10,902 |
| On summary trial ... ... ... | 1,564 | 1,475 | 7,050 | 5,524 |

The Deputy Commissioner of Ranchi has remarked that the Settlement Records under the amended Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act have simplified and reduced the work arising from criminal litigation in connection with agricultural disputes.

The sentences passed on the persons convicted were as follows:—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Imprisonment | Rigorous ... ... ... ... | 9,251 |
| | Simple ... ... ... ... | 334 |
| Fine ... | With imprisonment ... ... ... | 1,777 |
| | Without imprisonment ... ... | 31,307 |
| Whipping ... | Sole punishment ... ... ... | 262 |
| | Additional punishment ... ... | 6 |

Punishments.

**100.** Terms of solitary confinement were included in 57 of the sentences of rigorous imprisonment as compared with 67 in the previous year. 30 youthful offenders were sentenced to detention in a Reformatory School, as against 29 in 1917.

682 persons were called upon to give security for good behaviour, and of these 680 were sentenced to terms of imprisonment not exceeding one year on failing to comply with the orders. 180 persons were released on probation under section 562 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. Of the sentences of imprisonment passed, 1,783 were for terms not exceeding 15 days; 6,245 for terms not exceeding six months; 2,123 for terms not exceeding two years; and 84 for terms exceeding two years. The fines imposed aggregated Rs. 2,86,414. During the year Rs. 2,35,126 were realized and Rs. 41,368 were paid as compensation to complainants out of fines.

Miscellaneous proceedings under the Code of Criminal Procedure.

**101.** There were 386 proceedings involving 1,920 persons under Chapter VIII, Criminal Procedure Code, to prevent a breach of the peace, showing a decrease of 98 and 525 respectively, compared with 1,917. 446 persons were bound down.

1,033 persons in 461 cases were called upon to show cause why they should not give security to be of good behaviour, and the orders were made absolute against 839. Of these 823 failed to give the required security and were imprisoned in default, 143 of them after reference to the Court of Sessions under section 123 of the Code, and 680 under orders of Magistrates for terms not exceeding one year.

Proceedings for abatement of nuisances under Chapter X of the Code were taken in 630 cases and in the cases of 4 persons a reference was made to a Jury under section 138 of the Code. The number of cases under Chapter XII of the Code involving questions of the possession of land decided by Magistrates during the year was 841, a decrease of 250 from the figures for 1917.

Under section 250 of the Code, 353 complainants were ordered to pay compensation to accused persons. Proceedings for maintenance under Chapter XXXVI of the Code were taken against 443 persons, of whom 130 were ordered to give maintenance.

Witnesses.

**102.** The number of witnesses examined in the Courts of Magistrates was 132,805 as compared with 148,033 in 1917. The number who attended and were discharged without examination was 56,651 or 29·9 per cent of the whole number in attendance. In the preceding year the percentage was 26·7. The amount paid to witnesses on account of the expenses of attendance fell from Rs. 50,901 in 1917 to Rs. 42,548 in 1918.

Of the total number in attendance 143,017 (75·4 per cent) were discharged on the first day; 35,486 (18·7 per cent) on the second; 8,670 (4·6 per cent) on the third and 2,283 (1·2 per cent) after the third day. The percentages in 1917 were 75·8, 18·8, 4·3 and 1·1 respectively.

## II.—Courts of Sessions.

Commitments, etc.

**103.** The number of cases committed for trial or referred during the year was 503, and the number disposed of, including the pending cases of the

previous year, was 548. These figures show a decrease of 53 and one respectively from the figures for the preceding year. There were 56 cases pending at the close of the year.

Commitments increased in the Champaran District from 19 to 31, in Gaya from 26 to 37, and in Palamau from 4 to 12. On the other hand, the number fell in Saran from 66 to 23, in Cuttack from 30 to 13 and in the Santal Parganas from 40 to 29. It is interesting to see that Saran which showed an increase both in 1916 and 1917 recorded the largest decrease in 1918.

**104.** The number of persons under trial before Courts of Sessions during the year was 1,477 against 1,643 in 1917. The cases of 1,327 persons were decided, and 129 remained under trial at the close of the year. Of the 1,327 persons tried 836 or 63 per cent as against 853 or 63·7 per cent in 1917, were convicted and 476 were acquitted or discharged while the cases of 15 persons were referred to the High Court under sections307 and 374 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. Results of trials.

**105.** The following sentences were passed by the Courts of Sessions during the year:— Punishments.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Death | | 10 |
| Transportation | For life | 54 |
| | For a term of years | 14 |
| Imprisonment | Rigorous | 602 |
| | Simple | 12 |
| Fine | | 46 |
| Whipping | | 7 |

In the cases of 2 out of 602 persons sentenced to rigorous imprisonment, the sentences included terms of solitary confinement. 36 of the sentences of fine and 3 of whipping were additional punishments. Besides the above, 143 persons were sentenced to rigorous or simple imprisonment (all for terms between one year and three years) on failure to furnish security for good behaviour and 6 persons who had been convicted of an offence involving a breach of the peace, were required to execute a bond with sureties to keep the peace in addition to their substantive punishment. Sentences of imprisonment were passed for the following terms:—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Not exceeding | 15 days | 10 |
| | 6 months | 87 |
| | 2 years | 146 |
| | 7 years | 481 |
| Exceeding | 7 years | 33 |

Fines to the amount of Rs. 11,420 were imposed by Courts of Sessions, as compared with Rs. 9,467 in the preceding year. The total realizations of the year amounted to Rs. 3,259 as compared with Rs. 3,288 in 1917. The compensation awarded to complainants during the year, out of fines realized, was Rs. 235.

**106.** Patna was previously the only Jury district, but the system of trial by Jury was extended to Bhagalpur and Muzaffarpur from the 1st September 1918. The number of persons tried by Jury during 1918 was 102. The Sessions Judge approved of the verdict of the Jury in respect of 101 persons and in the case of one person he disagreed with the verdict and made a reference to the High Court under section 307 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. The reference was not disposed of by the High Court during 1918. Jury trials.

Trial by Assessors.

**107.** The number of persons tried with the aid of assessors was 1,018. In the cases of 649 persons, the Sessions Judge concurred with the opinion of both assessors; in the cases of 215 he differed from the opinion of one; and in the cases of 154 he differed from the opinion of both. The corresponding figures for 1917 were 1,137, 730, 187 and 220 respectively.

Duration of cases.

**108.** The average duration of Sessions trials, from the date of commitment to the decision was 49·03 days as compared with 52·7 days in 1917. Notice was, as usual, taken by the High Court of all cases of unusual duration and also of cases of delay between apprehension and commitment. The duration of cases was specially high in the districts of Sambalpur (90), Saran (82·1), Hazaribagh (74) and Muzaffarpur (64). The delay at Saran is attributed by the Sessions Judge to the fact that a commission for the examination of certain witnesses in a case was issued to the British Resident at Nepal, which was not returned until more than six months had elapsed, by which time the Sessions Judge had left Chapra for Gaya to work as President of a Special Tribunal. Sambalpur, though maintaining the highest record as in the previous year, has, however, shown a decrease from 117·5 days to 90 days. There was also an appreciable decrease in Palamau from 69·7 days to 49·2 days, in Bhagalpur from 51·1 days to 32 days and in Purnea from 60·6 days to 43 days.

In the year under review special attention has been given by the High Court to the duration of commitment inquiries and the Court has noticed with satisfaction that its repeated demands for explanations from Subordinate Courts and District Magistrates are having a beneficial result. In this respect, however, the fault does not always lie with the Committing Magistrate. It is often found that the police arrest an accused without adequate evidence and that repeated remands are taken during the commitment inquiry for the purpose of building up a case against him. The Court has addressed the Local Government who have recently issued a circular to District Magistrates calling their special attention to this matter.

Witnesses.

**109.** The number of witnesses in attendance before the Courts of Sessions was 8,009. Of these 5,752 were examined and 2,257 discharged without examination. In 1917, the corresponding figures were 8,915, 6,422 and 2,493 respectively. Of the total number in attendance 3,931 (49·08 per cent) were discharged on the first day, 2,345 (29·3 per cent) on the second day, 993 (12·4 per cent) on the third day and 740 (9·2 per cent) after the third day. The percentages for the previous year were 57·3, 23·3, 11·4 and 8 respectively.

The amount paid to witnesses on account of the expenses incurred by them in attending Sessions trials was Rs. 15,034 as compared with Rs. 17,380 in 1917.

## Appellate Jurisdiction.

### I.—High Court.

Appeals.

**110.** At the end of 1917, 11 appeals were pending before the High Court (including the Circuit Court, Cuttack), from the sentences or orders of Criminal Courts. 244 appeals were preferred during the year and 241 decided, so 14 remained pending at the close of the year.

233 of these appeals were against sentences passed by Courts of Sessions and 8 were against sentences passed by Magistrates acting under section 34 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. In addition, there were 3 appeals by the Local Government against orders of acquittal.

Results of Appeals.

**111.** Of the 241 appeals decided during the year, the orders of the Lower Court were upheld in 181 instances, reversed in 9 and modified in 51.

As regards the persons concerned in these appeals, the appeals of 192 persons were summarily dismissed under section 421 of the Code of Criminal Procedure; in admitted appeals, the sentences on 174 appellants were confirmed, on 141 reduced or altered, and on 14 annulled; and in the case of 2 person

new trial or further inquiry was ordered, while in the case of one the sentence was enhanced. The percentage of appellants who were entirely unsuccessful was 70 as against 72·3 in 1917.

### II.—APPELLATE COURTS SUBORDINATE TO THE HIGH COURT.

**112.** There were 74 appeals pending before the Courts of Sessions at the beginning of the year. During the year 1,368 appeals were preferred. Of these, 1,375 were decided and 67 were pending at the close of the year. The number of appeals preferred to Sessions Judges was 131 less than in 1917. Sessions Courts.

3,064 persons were concerned in the appeals decided by Sessions Judges during 1918. The appeals of 755 of these, or 24·6 per cent, were summarily dismissed; 206 appellants, or 39·3 per cent whose appeals were admitted, were altogether unsuccessful; 332 or 10·8 per cent obtained a reduction or alteration of sentence; 705 or 23 per cent were acquitted; and in the case of 66 or 2·1 per cent appellants, a new trial or further inquiry was ordered.

**113.** In the Courts of Magistrates there were 78 appeals pending at the beginning of the year. During the year 1,560 appeals were preferred; of these 1,546 were decided and 92 were pending at the close of the year. The number preferred was 104 less than in 1917. Magistrates' Courts.

The number of persons whose appeals were decided by Courts of Magistrates was 3,189. The appeals of 462 were summarily dismissed, and the sentences on 1,345, whose appeals were admitted, were confirmed. 1,807 appellants, or 56·6 per cent were, therefore, wholly unsuccessful. Of the remainder, 410 appellants, or 12·8 per cent obtained a modification of the sentences passed on them, and 938, or 29·4 per cent, were acquitted. In the case of 34 appellants new trials or further inquiry were ordered. These results are more favourable to appellants than in the previous year.

## Superintendence, Reference and Revision.

### I.—HIGH COURT.

**114.** Only one application was made on behalf of the Crown under section 339 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, which was rejected. References under sections 339 and 374 of the Code of Criminal Procedure

Fourteen references under section 374 of the Code of Criminal Procedure for confirmation of the sentence of death were made to the High Court during 1918, and one was pending from the previous year. Out of these 14 were decided and one remained pending at the close of the year. In the references decided 15 persons were concerned. The death sentence on 10 persons was confirmed, in the cases of 3 persons the sentence was commuted to transportation for life, and in the cases of two persons retrial was ordered.

**115.** During the year, 62 cases were reported for the orders of the High Court by Sessions Judges and District Magistrates under section 438 of the Code of Criminal Procedure and 6 were pending at the opening of the year. Of these 61 were decided and 4 remained pending. The number reported was 3 less than in 1917. In 41 cases the orders sent up for revision were set aside, or the proceedings quashed, and in 5 a new trial was ordered. Sentences were reduced or altered in 10 and enhanced in 4 cases. In the remaining 4 cases the High Court declined to interfere. Revision.

Orders were passed under section 435 of the Code of Criminal Procedure in 480 cases, a decrease of 22 from the figures of the previous year. All these cases came before the High Court on application made to it.

280 applications for the issue of rules were rejected. Of the 200 rules issued 66 were finally discharged; 22 were made absolute in their entirety; in 2 cases the sentence was enhanced; the orders complained of were modified in 87 cases; in 3 cases the proceedings were quashed and in 20 cases new trial or further inquiry was ordered. The figures for the preceding year were 232 applications rejected, 220 rules issued, 83 discharged and 50 made absolute.

The most notable case during the year was an application made by a person who was convicted by a Special Tribunal constituted under the Defence of India (Criminal Law Amendment) Act, 1915 (Act IV of 1915), in which the legality of the proceedings before the Commissioners of the Special Tribunal was questioned. It was held that the Governor General in Council had power to constitute Courts under Act IV of 1915, that the proceedings of such Courts were legal, and that the High Court could not interfere with the decision of such Courts.

Applications for transfer.

**116.** Thirty-three applications under section 526 of the Code of Criminal Procedure for transfer of cases from one Court or district to another were made in 1918. 32 were dealt with of which 10 were summarily rejected. In 22 cases rules were issued with the result that transfers were granted in 21 cases and refused in one case. The principal figures for the preceding year were 52 applications, 42 rules issued, 36 granted and 6 refused.

II.—COURTS SUBORDINATE TO THE HIGH COURT.

Sessions Courts.

**117.** The cases of 2,118 persons were decided on revision by Courts of Sessions during the year. These include the cases both of accused persons who themselves applied for revision of the orders passed on them in the Courts of Magistrates and of accused persons against whom such applications were made by complainants. The number was 125 more than in 1917. The applications of 1,025 persons were rejected, and as regards 515, the orders of the Lower Court were confirmed. Orders passed in the cases of 27 persons were reversed and in the cases of 2 persons proceedings were quashed. In the cases of 458 persons new trials or further inquiries were directed and the cases of 91 persons were referred to the High Court.

Magistrates' Courts.

**118.** The cases of 2,022 accused persons, who applied for revision, or against whom applications were made by complainants, came before the District Magistrates. The number was less by 225 than in 1917. The applications of 550 persons were rejected and in the cases of 709 the original sentence or order was upheld. Sentences or orders affecting 35 persons were modified, and those affecting 190 were reversed. In the cases of 9 persons proceedings were quashed, and those of 489 persons new trials or further inquiries were directed. The cases of 40 persons were referred to the High Court.

III.—GENERAL.

Trial of European British subjects.

**119.** The cases of 7 European British subjects were decided during the year against 16 in the preceding year. All these cases were dealt with by Magistrates. Of the accused persons, one claimed to be tried by a mixed Jury, 2 were convicted and 5 acquitted. The convictions were in one case for receiving stolen property and in the other under the Indian Mines Act.

Receipts and Charges.

**120.** The receipts were Rs. 5,98,481. Of this amount Rs. 2,19,165 were under fines; Rs. 74,241 under process-fees; Rs. 87,438 under copying and comparing fees; Rs. 1,54,462 under Court-fee stamp receipts other than the above; and Rs. 63, 175 were miscellaneous receipts.

Debiting, as usual, to the administration of Criminal Justice as portion of the salaries of Judicial Officers proportionate to the time which their returns show them to have devoted to criminal work, the total charges for the year amounted to Rs. 12,53,961. Of this amount Rs. 7,77,398 were for the salaries of Judicial Officers; Rs. 73,752 for fixed and temporary copying establishments Rs. 44,328 for process-servers; Rs. 1,88,632 for other establishments and Rs. 1,69,851 for contingencies and refunds. The receipts and charges fell below those of 1917 by Rs. 60,930 and Rs. 14,807 respectively.

## Criminal Justice in Scheduled Districts.

Santal Parganas and Angul.

**121.** The number of cases brought to trial in the scheduled districts of the Santal Parganas and Angul (including the Khondmals) was 6,266 against 6,101 in the previous year, and the disposals amounted to 6,083 as against

5,918 in the year 1917. Out of the 9,930 persons under trial including those awaiting trial from the previous year, 5,392 were acquitted or discharged and 4,026 convicted. Of the cases brought to trial 1,033 were for criminal force and assault, 524 for theft, 532 for criminal trespass and 2,089 for offences under special and local laws. The punishment of whipping was inflicted in 22 cases against 20 in the previous year. The total number of appellants and applicants for revision was 497, of whom 159 were wholly or partly successful.

## Jails.

**122.** The incidence of sickness and mortality among prisoners was very high. 13,777 prisoners were admitted to hospital against 6,679 in 1917, while the daily average number in hospital was 662 against 310. The total number of deaths rose from 237 to 584 and the death-rate from 32·9 to 63·4 *per month*. This abnormal rise was shared by most of the jails in the province and is attributed to influenza to the bad health of many of the prisoners admitted during the year, to overcrowding and, to some extent, to the absence of the regular Superintendents on war service. It is difficult to estimate the number of deaths from influenza, since many cases were returned under other heads, but the epidemic probably accounts for about half of the increase of 347 over the year 1917. There were 149 fatal cases of dysentery and 88 of tuberculosis compared with 39 and 44 in the previous year. General condition of Prisoners.

**123.** At the request of the Local Government the Sanitary Commissioner with the Government of India was deputed to visit the province, and on his advice the Provincial Sanitary Commissioner is making a survey of the Sanitary arrangements of all the jails in the province. The Inspector-General has also issued instructions to all Superintendents for the prevention and control of dysentery. A tubercular ward is under construction at Bhagalpur and it has been decided to use the Ranchi District jail as a segregation jail for tubercular convicts. Sanitary arrangements.

In order to facilitate medical control, it has been decided to concentrate prisoners to a great extent in large central jails. A proposal for the reorganization of the subordinate medical staff in jails, in order to render prison service more popular, is also under consideration.

**124.** The working of the Juvenile Jail at Monghyr continued to be satisfactory. On account of the growing demand for accommodation it was proposed to move this jail to Purulia, but this has proved impossible and the Inspector-General has been asked to formulate other plans. Juvenile Jail.

**125.** The Secretary of State has recently sanctioned the grant of a pension on the superior scale to the warder establishment in the province. This concession has removed a long-felt grievance and should make it possible to recruit a better class of men for the service. Establishment.

## Civil Justice.

**126.** The following changes took place in the personnel of the Puisne Judges during the year 1918. The Hon'ble Mr. Justice Atkinson went on combined leave with effect from the 3rd April 1918 and was succeeded by Dr. Thornhill, Bar-at-law, Chief Judge of the Court of Small Causes, Calcutta, who held office till the 11th August 1918. The Hon'ble Mr. Justice Chapman went on furlough with effect from the 22nd April 1918 and subsequently retired with effect from the 26th October 1918. The Hon'ble Mr. Justice Coutts, who succeeded him with effect from the 13th May 1918, was confirmed in the appointment. Jurisdiction.

**127.** The Hon'ble Justice Sir Saiyid Ali Imam was appointed to be a temporary member of the Executive Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bihar and Orissa and was succeeded by Mr. P. C. Manuk, Bar-at-law, who assumed office with effect from the 23rd October 1918. Judicial Staff.

The permanent civil judicial staff subordinate to the High Court consisted of 12 District and Sessions Judges, 24 Subordinate Judges and 68 Munsifs. The 24 Subordinate Judges include the 5 Subordinate Judges added

to the cadre permanently from the 1st April 1918. In addition to these, the following temporary appointments were made :—

(*a*) An Additional District and Sessions Judge for Muzaffarpur was appointed from the 18th July to the end of the year, and a second Additional District and Sessions Judge was also appointed in the same district from the 17th to the 23rd December.

An Additional District and Sessions Judge was sanctioned for Shahabad for six months, but the office was held only from the 12th August to the 22nd October.

(*b*) An Additional Subordinate Judge for Bhagalpur was sanctioned for nine months exclusive of the Civil Court vacation, and the officer appointed worked from the 5th September till the end of the year.

(*c*) An Additional Munsif was appointed at Buxar in the district of Shahabad from the 18th January till the end of the year exclusive of the Civil Court vacation. The Assistant Registrar of the Circuit Court at Cuttack was appointed as Additional Munsif of Cuttack from the 30th July 1918 in addition to his own duties and worked as such on Small Cause Court work till the end of the year.

The five posts of Additional Subordinate Judges which continued on a temporary basis from the previous year were added to the cadre permanently from the 1st April 1918. These five Subordinate Judges were employed as below :—

One at Monghyr, one at Gaya and Muzaffarpur, one at Dhanbad in Manbhum-Sambalpur, one at Hazaribagh (and Palamau) and one at Muzaffarpur up to the 27th February and then at Saran from the 28th February to the end of the year.

The third Munsif's Court of Patna which was located at Bárh as an experimental measure became permanent from the 2nd August 1918, and a new Munsif's Court, created experimentally for one year at Bettiah in the district of Muzaffarpur, started work from the 17th September 1918.

## Original Jurisdiction.

Original suits instituted.

**128.** The number of original suits instituted in the province was 165,064, a decrease of 8,171 from that of the previous year. The figures of institutions for the last four years are as follows :—

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1915 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 163,529 |
| 1916 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 169,340 |
| 1917 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 173,235 |
| 1918 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 165,064 |

There was a decrease in 1918 in all districts, except in Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga, Bhagalpur and Monghyr. The decrease was most marked in Shahabad (4,032), Saran (3,671) and Cuttack (2,225). The decrease is attributed by District Judges to the failure of crops, the rise in prices on account of the war, and the prevalence of the influenza epidemic. In Saran it is partly ascribed to the pendency of the Revisional Survey and Settlement operations. In Shahabad the decrease is probably only temporary, and is no doubt rightly attributed by the District Judge to the Bakr-Id disturbances of 1917, one of the results of which has been an assessment on property-owners in a large part of the district for the cost of the punitive police.

Litigation continues to increase in Muzaffarpur, where institutions were 3,902 more than in 1917. Nearly the whole increase is in the Champaran

district, where the institutions have risen nearly 48 per cent. from 7,690 to 11,366. The causes of this abnormal rise are (1) the strained relations between landlords and tenants and (2) the completion of the Revisional Survey Operations.

The figures of institutions in the province for the last four years, which are given at the beginning of this paragraph, show that the normal increase in litigation has not occurred in 1918.

Of the 165,064 suits instituted, 49,043 were for money or movables, 97,846 were rent suits and 18,175 were title and other suits, showing a decrease of 7·1, 1·7 and 12·9 per cent respectively in comparison with the corresponding figures of the previous year. The value of the suits instituted amounted to Rs. 4,29,04,430.

**129.** The following table shows in order the number of institutions in each district :— **Local distribution.**

| | |
|---|---|
| (1) Muzaffarpur ... ... ... ... | 26,935 |
| (2) Purnea ... ... ... ... | 20,561 |
| (3) Darbhanga ... ... ... ... | 17,350 |
| (4) Cuttack ... ... ... ... | 16,859 |
| (5) Bhagalpur ... ... ... ... | 14,502 |
| (6) Monghyr ... ... ... ... | 13,814 |
| (7) Shahabad ... ... ... ... | 13,731 |
| (8) Saran ... ... ... ... | 13,629 |
| (9) Patna ... ... ... ... | 10,373 |
| (10) Manbhum-Sambalpur... ... ... ... | 6,703 |
| (11) Gaya ... ... ... ... | 6,139 |
| (12) Chota Nagpur ... ... ... ... | 4,468 |

**130.** The following table shows that the majority of suits instituted were, as usual, under Rs. 50 in value :— **Nature of suits instituted.**

| — | Suits for money and movables. | Suits under the Rent Law. | Title and other suits. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Rs. | | | |
| Not exceeding 10 ... | 2,505 | 27,070 | 672 |
| Not exceeding 50 ... | 19,111 | 45,569 | 3,702 |
| Not exceeding 100 ... | 11,467 | 13,450 | 2,746 |
| Not exceeding 500 ... | 13,607 | 10,641 | 6,698 |
| Exceeding Rs. 500 or value not stated ... | 2,353 | 1,116 | 4,357 |
| Total ... | 49,043 | 97,846 | 18,175 |

Title suits represented in value 67·6 per cent of the total litigation of the province. Out of the total number classed as title suits 53·7 per cent were for immovable property, 30·5 per cent were mortgage suits and 7·5 per cent were for specific relief.

**Number of suits for disposal and disposed of.**

**131.** The number of suits instituted (165,064) during the year, added to the number pending from the last year (90,032) and to the number revived or received on remand or review during the year (3,820) gives a total of 258,916 suits for disposal. This is a decrease of 5,841 from the figures of the previous year. The number of suits disposed of was 168,183 showing a decrease of 6,542 from the figures for 1917. The following table shows the disposals of contested and uncontested suits by Subordinate Judges and Munsifs :—

| | | Contested. | | | Uncontested. | | | | Average disposals. | | | Percentage of contested disposals to total decided. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Under ordinary procedure. | Under Small Cause Court powers. | Total. | Under ordinary procedure. | Under Small Cause Court powers. | Total. | Total of columns 4 and 7. | Contested. | Uncontested. | Total. | Under ordinary procedure. | Under Small Cause Court powers. |
| 1 | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| By Subordinate Judges. | 1917... | 2,032 | 1,049 | 3,081 | 2,172 | 4,640 | 6,812 | 9,993 | 118 | 262 | 380 | 20·5 | 10·6 |
| | 1918... | 1,510 | 1,438 | 2,948 | 2,177 | 6,630 | 8,807 | 11,755 | 116 | 345 | 461 | 12·8 | 12·2 |
| By Munsifs | 1917... | 23,218 | 2,540 | 25,758 | 116,295 | 22,646 | 138,941 | 164,699 | 576 | 2,028 | 2,404 | 14·09 | 1·5 |
| | 1918... | 24,008 | 2,404 | 26,412 | 111,394 | 18,506 | 129,900 | 156,312 | 380 | 1,869 | 2,249 | 15·4 | 1·6 |

Variations in disposal as compared with the previous year were most marked in four districts. In Muzaffarpur there was an increase of 1,803. Special attention was given to the prompt disposal of rent and money suits by the Munsifs of Motihari in view of the strained agrarian relations existing in the district of Champaran. In Cuttack, Shahabad and Monghyr there was a decrease of 2,318, 1,929 and 1,900 respectively. The decrease in Cuttack is due to (1) the deputation of one of the two permanent Munsifs of Balasore for a greater part of the year to Purnea and Gaya, (2) the reduction in the number of Munsifs with Small Cause Court powers and (3) the fall in institutions. The number of pending cases was only a little higher than in the previous year.

Of the total number of suits decided, 156,312 were disposed of by Munsifs, of which about one-seventh were dealt with under Small Cause Court procedure, 11,755 by Subordinate Judges, 32 by the Small Cause Court Judge of Dinapore and 84 by District and Additional District Judges.

**Results of suits.**

**132.** The following table shows the proportion of contested and uncontested suits to the total number of suits disposed of. It also shows the number of cases in which the plaintiffs were successful in whole

or in part and of cases in which the plaintiffs were unsuccessful. There was little variation as compared with the previous year :—

| | Contested. | | | Uncontested. | | | | | | | | Plaintiffs wholly or partly successful. | Plaintiffs unsuccessful. | Retrial. | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | *Ex-parte.* | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | For plaintiff. | For defendant. | Total. | Dismissed. | Decreed. | Compromised. | Decreed on confession. | Dismissed for default, etc. | Withdrawn with leave. | Rejected. | Total. | | | Applications granted. | Applications rejected. | Percentage of successful applications. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| | 24,162 | 4,795 | 28,957 | 708 | 78,184 | 26,177 | 1,643 | 29,894 | 2,226 | 445 | 138,777 | 104,338 | 37,668 | 3,349 | 5,593 | 37·45 |
| Percentage with reference to total number of cases disposed of (168,184) in 1918. | 14·36 | 2·85 | 17·21 | ·42 | 46·48 | 15·56 | ·98 | 17·47 | 1·32 | ·26 | 82·51 | 62·04 | 22·4 | ... | ... | ... |
| | 23,080 | 5,353 | 28,433 | 1,122 | 79,879 | 29,070 | 1,886 | 30,100 | 2,622 | 552 | 145,833 | 105,197 | 39,858 | 3,490 | 5,790 | 37·6 |
| Percentage with reference to total number of cases disposed of (174,725) in 1917. | 13·2 | 3·06 | 16·2 | ·6 | 45·7 | 16·9 | 1·08 | 17·2 | 1·5 | ·3 | 83·4 | 60·2 | 22·8 | ... | ... | ... |

Of 28,957 suits decided after contest, 24,162 or 83·4 per cent resulted in favour of plaintiffs and 4,795 or 16·6 per cent in favour of defendants. The number of suits compromised was highest in Cuttack (4,370), in which district, the largest number of money suits were instituted.

**133.** The number of applications preferred for retrial was 9,040, or 8·4 per cent of the total number of cases dismissed for default or decided *ex-parte*. Of the total number of applications disposed or (8,942), 37·4 per cent were successful. The number of applications preferred was largest in Muzaffarpur (1,527), Purnea (1,248), Darbhanga (1,100) and Saran (1,509), and the number granted was highest in Muzaffarpur (705), Saran (453), Purnea (379) and Darbhanga (371). The percentages of applications granted in these four districts were as follows :— **Applications for Retrial.**

Muzaffarpur (42), Saran (41), Darbhanga (37) and Purnea (31).

**134.** The following table gives the average duration of contested and uncontested suits disposed of by the various grades of Courts. The variations from the previous year are slight :— **Average duration of suits.**

| | | District Judges. | | Subordinate Judges. | | Munsifs. | | Small Cause Court Judge. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 1918 | 1917 | 1918 | 1917 | 1916 | 1917 | 1918 | 1917 |
| 1 | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| | | Days. | | Days. | | Days. | | Days. | |
| Under ordinary procedure. | Contested ... | 293 | 262 | 424 | 444 | 232 | 228 | ... | ... |
| | Uncontested | 215 | 239 | 310 | 283 | 139 | 128 | ... | ... |
| Under Small Cause Court procedure. | Contested ... | ... | ... | 98 | 86 | 85 | 81 | 3 | 6 |
| | Uncontested | ... | ... | 67 | 57 | 58 | 51 | 35 | 3 |

Pending Suits.

**135.** The number of suits pending at the close of the year rose from 90,033 in 1917 to 90,735, and there has been an increase in the number of one-year old suits from 1,477 to 2,187. Of these 1,024 were pending in the Courts of Munsifs and 1,163 in the Courts of District and Subordinate Judges. The figures, as in the previous year, are heaviest in the districts of Shahabad (708), Gaya (373), Muzaffarpur (287) and Saran (209). Proposals have been made to Government for an increase of cadre to enable suits to be more speedily disposed of than is possible at present. It is disappointing that the reduction in the duration of contested cases in the Courts of Subordinate Judges is only 20 days. It is hoped that the practice recently introduced of dealing separately with the quarterly returns of each district will effect a still further reduction.

In fairness to the presiding officers it must be admitted that in this matter the attitude of litigants and of legal practitioners is one of undisguised obstruction. Instead of desiring a speedy trial they almost invariably resent the efforts of a Subordinate Judge to bring a hearing of a case before it is a year old.

In the Court of the Munsifs, however, there has been a rise of 4 days in the duration of contested cases. The rise has not been satisfactorily explained but special efforts are now being made to effect an improvement. Possibly the smaller number of rent suits disposed of has affected the increase. The rise in the average duration of contested cases both before the Subordinate Judges and Munsifs in Small Cause Court suits is unsatisfactory ; and it is due to a shortage of Senior Munsifs fit for the exercise of Small Cause Court powers that a larger number of suits were tried under the ordinary procedure.

The increase in the duration in the Court of the Small Cause Court Judge of Dinapore from 6 to 34 days for contested cases is probably due to the exigencies of the war. The number of cases however, was only 32, and the hardship caused could not, therefore, have affected any considerable number of litigants.

Execution Proceedings.

**136.** There were 29,310 applications for execution of decrees pending from the previous year and 104,147 applications were made during the year. Full satisfaction was obtained in 50,076 and partial satisfaction in 10,294 cases. In 42,177 cases the proceedings were returned as wholly infructuous, and 28,795 remained pending at the close of the year. The proportions of infructuous proceedings was, as in the previous year, highest in Cuttack (72·08) and was due to the same reason as in 1916 and 1917, namely, that the decree-holders in Orissa, many of whom are petty money-lenders, are more anxious to keep their decrees alive than to press them to execution. The next highest percentages were in Chota Nagpur (60·1) and Manbhum-Sambalpur (59·6). The District Judge of Manbhum-Sambalpur has attributed this to the same reason as in the previous year, namely, that *raiyati* rights are not saleable in the district in execution of money decrees, in consequence of which decree-holders file applications for execution in many cases merely in order to keep the decree alive. The Judicial Commissioner of Chota Nagpur has offered no explanation, but it is presumed that the high percentage is due to the same reason as in the case of Manbhum-Sambalpur. The total amount realized in Courts other than Small Cause Courts was Rs. 92,50,545. The coercive measures employed were arrest of judgment-debtors in 728 cases, sale of movable and immovable property in 1,276 and 20,625 cases, respectively, and attachment of property, followed by its release, in 23,129 cases. Possession of immovable property was given in 2,036 cases of which the largest number was in the district of Saran (345). The number of infructuous applications in execution is receiving the special attention of Inspecting Judges, but it is apprehended that no real improvement will be made till there is a change in the law of limitation. It seems incomprehensible why a decree-holder after filing an application for execution and taking some steps in connection therewith should allow it to be dismissed for default. His act serves no purpose, though it throws additional work upon the Judicial staff and possibly his sole object is to harass his opponent. It would seem that the only way of securing greater diligence from the decree-holder is a reduction of the period of limitation or the imposition of a penalty upon its

being proved that the previous execution was dismissed by reason of *laches* on his part.

**137.** 24,613 cases of a judicial nature other than suits and execution proceedings were instituted, 25,626 were disposed of and 5,054 were left pending. Of the cases disposed of, 2,416 were withdrawn, compromised or decreed on confession, 6,339 were decided *ex-parte* and 7,977 were contested. Of the total number of applications disposed of after contest, 50·2 per cent were granted. Of the pending cases only 10 were more than a year old. **Miscellaneous cases.**

The number of miscellaneous cases of a non-judicial nature instituted and disposed of was 3,896 and 3,728 respectively. The number of applications for the deposit of rent was highest in Muzaffarpur (825), Patna (197) and Saran (159). The figures in Muzaffarpur, though still high, are lower than last year (1,200), and are probably due to the same reasons, viz., the Revisional Survey operations and the strained relations between landlords and tenants in the Champaran district.

## Appellate Jurisdiction.

### I.—APPEALS IN THE HIGH COURT.

**138.** The following table gives the number of appeals from Subordinate Courts instituted and decided in the High Court during 1918. It shows an increase in the number of appeals pending at the end of the year. The disposals in 1916 and 1917 were 2,584 and 2,668 appeals respectively. The pending file at the close of 1916 was 2,299 :— **Appeals from Subordinate Courts.**

| — | Pending at the close of 1917. | Preferred. | Decided. | Pending at the end of 1918. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| First Appeals— | | | | |
| From decrees ... | 435 | 231 | 150 | 516 |
| From orders ... | 169 | 243 | 274 | 138 |
| Second Appeals— | | | | |
| From decrees ... | 1,067 | 1,560 | 890 | 1,737 |
| From orders ... | 64 | 75 | 107 | 32 |
| Total ... | 1,735 | 2,109 | 1,421 | 2,423 |

Of the 150 appeals from original decrees decided during the year, 31 were uncontested, being dismissed for default, or otherwise not prosecuted. Of those decided after contest, in 75 cases the decrees of the Lower Court were confirmed, in 25 cases reversed, in 17 modified and in 2 remanded.

Of 890 appeals from appellate decrees of District Judges and Subordinate Judges decided, 382 were summarily rejected, 19 were compromised, 2 were withdrawn and 16 were dismissed for default, while of the remainder 318 decrees were confirmed, 74 reversed, 48 modified, and 31 remanded.

Of the 381 appeals from orders decided, 37 were summarily rejected, 43 were uncontested, being dismissed for default or otherwise not prosecuted, and 301 were decided after trial. Of the latter, 223 orders were confirmed, 65 reversed, 5 varied and 8 remanded.

## II.—APPELLATE COURTS SUBORDINATE TO THE HIGH COURT.

Appeals instituted.

**139.** 7,539 appeals, 1,024 less than in 1917, were instituted. The largest increase in the institution of appeals was in Muzaffarpur (464), while the decrease was most marked in Gaya (52), Patna (430) and Monghyr (272). In Muzaffarpur the increase was chiefly noticeable in special appeals. In Gaya the decrease was mainly due to the completion of the settlement operations in the district towards the close of 1917. The decrease in other districts was probably due to the high prices, failure of crops and influenza epidemic, coupled with a fall in the number of institutions of suits. Appeals were lodged in 31·5 per cent of the cases in which appeals were admissible. The highest percentages were in Cuttack (40·5) and Saran (39·04) and the lowest were in Bhagalpur (21·8) and Monghyr (18·3). 8,411 appeals, 338 less than in 1917, were disposed of, of which 5,786 were decided by District and Additional District Judges and 2,625 by Subordinate Judges. The chief fluctuations occurred in Saran, Muzaffarpur, Patna, Manbhum-Sambalpur and Shahabad. In Saran there was an increase in disposals of 640 due mainly to the District Judge having been able to devote more time to Civil Appeals in consequence of a large decrease in Sessions cases and to the presence of an Assistant Sessions Judge and of an additional Subordinate Judge for a longer period than in 1917. In Muzaffarpur there was an increase of 531 due to the appointment of an Additional District and Sessions Judge. The decrease was most marked in Patna (539), Manbhum-Sambalpur (352) and Shahabad (317). 4,769 appeals were pending at the end of the year, or 597 less than at the end of 1917, and there has been a satisfactory decrease, from 298 to 95, in the number pending for more than a year. It is hoped that with an increase in the cadre of Subordinate Judges it will be possible for District Judges to take up a larger number of civil appeals and also to try a certain number of original suits themselves.

Result of appeals.

**140.** In 4,336 cases, or 51·55 per cent of the whole, the judgment of the Lower Court was affirmed, in 1,225 cases or 14·56 per cent it was modified and in 1,276 or 15·17 per cent it was reversed. These percentages are almost the same as in the preceding year. 352 appeals or 4·18 per cent were remanded, and 1,222 or 14·52 per cent were either not prosecuted or were dismissed for default.

## General.

Receipts and Charges.

**141.** The receipts of the Civil Courts in Bihar and Orissa for the year amounted to Rs. 36,56,778, a decrease of Rs. 2,27,586 from those of the previous year, and the charges to Rs. 14,07,152, an increase of Rs. 15,630 compared with those of 1917. Including the amount of Rs. 49,566 realized on account of duty on probates, etc., there was a profit to the Government from civil litigation of Rs. 22,99,192. The details of the receipts and charges are as follows :—

| Receipts. | | | Rs. | Charges. | | | Rs. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| In stamps | Process-fees | ... | 6,70,232 | Salaries of Judicial officers | | ... | 5,87,098 |
| | Other fees | ... | 26,96,485 | Establishment | Process-servers | | 1,48,718 |
| In cash or special stamps. | Fines... | ... | 1,361 | | Others | ... | 4,44,392 |
| | Copying and comparing fees. | | 1,98,620 | Copyists' fees | ... | ... | 1,43,543 |
| | Other receipts | ... | 90,080 | Contingencies and refund | | ... | 83,401 |
| | Total | ... | 36,56,778 | Total | | ... | 14,07,152 |

Receipts show a decrease from the previous year's figures of Rs. 2,27,586 ; the decrease chiefly occurred under "Other Fees". The increase in expenditure is principally under the head "Salaries of Judicial Officers ".

**142.** The District Judge of Darbhanga has reported that an unnecessarily large number of stamps of smaller value were supplied by stamp-vendors to parties instead of a single higher value stamp of the requisite amount. Failure to supply stamps of proper value has been noticed in other districts also, and even in the case of pleader's certificate stamps several instances have occurred in which candidates were unable to procure stamps of the requisite value. It is believed that one of the principal causes of the failure of the stamp-vendors to keep sufficient stamps of such denominations as they are allowed to sell is that sufficient stocks of such stamps are not always available in Sub-Treasuries. The attention of the High Court has been engaged in making inquiries into the desirability of appointing trained Stamp Reporters for the Mufassal Courts and a scheme in connection therewith is now before the Government. It is proposed in view of the excellent results obtained in the High Court, to send out a number of trained officers to teach Sarishtadars in the Mufassal Courts to discharge their duties more efficiently in the matter of the examination of plaints and memoranda of appeal and it is hoped that the increase in revenue will more than cover the cost of the additional staff. **Stamps.**

**143.** The service of processes in the interior of districts by the Civil Court peons has been verified by the Nazir in all the districts with very satisfactory results. Returns submitted by the peons were found to be false in a very few instances and the peons concerned were suitably dealt with. In Bhagalpur and Cuttack it has been found that refusal to receive notices or summonses is a common occurrence, and in the majority of cases the allegations made by judgment-debtors about the fraudulent suppression of processes have been found to be false. The District Judge of Muzaffarpur reports that there was a considerable increase in the number of processes for attachment of crops in the Munsif's Court at Motihari. This too was probably due to the strained agrarian relations in that district. **Service of processes.**

**144.** The system of execution of commissions in cases requiring knowledge of surveying is unsatisfactory and was not uniform in the province. In the majority of the districts there are no salaried Civil Court Amins. The number of survey passed pleaders is, however, small and in several instances commissions were executed by pleaders with little or no survey training. Outsiders possessing a knowledge of survey were also employed. There was also considerable delay in the execution of commissions. Civil Court Amins were employed in the districts of Shahabad, Saran, Chota Nagpur and Cuttack. They are a considerably cheaper agency than pleaders, and probably always do the survey work themselves. But they require constant supervision and control. **Commissions and Commissioners.**

**145.** The District Judge of Shahabad has stated that the nominal supervision which is exercised by a District Judge over the estate of a minor is very small, as the Judge has no touring staff through whom he could ascertain how the properties are being managed by the guardians. Sometimes it becomes necessary for the District Judge to take the coercive measures provided by the Act to compel guardians to submit accounts or to deliver papers, but the result is usually unsatisfactory. There can be little doubt that much mismanagement of minors' estates prevails, and that in the majority of instances the District Judge is powerless. This is especially the case when the minor has no other near relation who is interested in drawing the Judge's attention to the mismanagement or dishonesty of the guardian. **Working of the Guardian and Wards Act.**

Owing to ill-health, the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Chapman, the Judge in charge of the English Department, was not able to make any inspection of District Courts in the earlier part of the year, and after he was compelled to take leave and to retire, there were for the greater part of the year only three permanent or senior Judges left in the Court by reason of transfers and leave applications; it was, therefore, not possible to arrange for any

inspections. The Judge in charge of the English Department, however, made inspections during the vacation of the Civil Courts at Ranchi and Hazaribagh and immediately after the close of the year four more districts were inspected. Some more districts were inspected in the spring and the remainder will be inspected during the approaching cold weather.

## Civil Justice in Scheduled Districts.

**146.** The total number of suits instituted during the year in the Civil Courts in the scheduled districts of the Santal Parganas and Angul (including the Khondmals) was 14,045 against 14,179 in the previous year. Of these 7,041 were suits for money and movable property, 6,157 rent-suits and 847 title and other suits. Money and title suits decreased by 0·78 per cent and 69·7 per cent respectively, while rent-suits increased by 4·9 per cent. The number of cases disposed of amounted to 14,024 leaving 2,408 pending at the close of the year. There were 12,651 applications for execution of decrees of which 2,784 remained pending at the end of the year; 599 appeals from decrees were filed and 548 were disposed of. Out of 158 miscellaneous appeals 140 were disposed of.

## Registration.

[Statistical Returns showing the operations under the Indian Registration Act in Bihar and Orissa during 1918.]

[Statistics of British India, Part II.—Commercial, Part VI.—Administrative and Judicial.]

Statistics.

**147.** The total number of registrations of documents affecting immovable property, movable property and wills declined by 3·4 per cent from 493,216 in 1917 to 466,820 in 1918, and the total income, too, decreased by 7·3 per cent from Rs. 6,81,556 in 1917 to Rs. 6,35,144 in 1918. The total expenditure, however, increased by 2·06 per cent from Rs. 3,53,690 in 1917 to Rs. 3,60,977 in 1918.

Registrations in various Divisions. Patna Division.

**148.** The very slight increase (2 per cent) in registrations in Patna and decrease (0·9 per cent) in Gaya, call for no comment. In Shahabad, however, there was a decrease of 11·4 per cent shared by all classes of documents and attributed to a variety of causes, chief among which were the partial failure of crops through drought, the general situation created by the war and the influenza epidemic. The District Registrar adds that a number of men accepted military service and the advance that they received went a great way to save them from falling into debt.

Tirhut Division.

**149.** Registrations decreased in all the districts of this Division except Champaran—a state of things just the reverse of what happened in the preceding year. The decrease in Saran was by 6·6 per cent, in Muzaffarpur by ·48 per cent and in Darbhanga by 16·5 per cent. The decrease in Saran is said to be due to reversion to the normal, as revisional survey and settlement operations in the preceding year swelled the number of registrations. The decrease in Muzaffarpur calls for no comment. In Darbhanga, the falling off was chiefly in sales, mortgages and leases other than perpetual leases, and is ascribed to the prevalence of plague, cholera and influenza. Champaran more than made up its depression of the previous year and recorded a rise by 25·7 per cent. It was principally under sales and mortgages and is attributed to the high prices of food-grains, cloth, oil, etc., in the district.

Bhagalpur Division.

**150.** In this Division registrations decreased in all the districts. The decreases in Purnea and Bhagalpur amounted, respectively, to 11·9 and 7·2 per cent, and are ascribed to the better condition of the people generally. The growing popularity of the co-operative movement and a smaller number of registrations of agreements for the enhancement of rent, renewal of leases and settlements of alluvial lands in 1918, as compared with 1917, are mentioned as additional factors contributing to the decrease in Bhagalpur. The decreases in Monghyr and the Santal Parganas by 2·11 and 3·03 per cent, respectively, are attributed to a better outturn of crops.

**151.** There was a depression in registrations throughout this Division. The heaviest deficit (19·04 per cent) in Balasore is ascribed to the good harvest of 1917. A similar reason is assigned for the decrease by 4·7 per cent in Cuttack. Puri had a fall by 8·6 per cent but no special reason has been given for it. The decline in Sambalpur from 715 to 629 is of no account, the total being so small. Orissa Division.

**152.** Excepting nominal rises in Manbhum and Palamau by ·22 and 1·5 per cent, respectively, there was an all round decline in registrations in this Division. Hazaribagh had a fall of 2·02 per cent from the previous year's figures, which is said to have been brought about by unfavourable crops. The District Registrar adds, " as *raiyati* holdings are not transferable, when the raiyat's credit is low the *mahajans* will not advance money on mortgages as there is no sufficient security. Poor crops have, therefore, the opposite effect on registration to what they have in Bihar ". The good harvest of the previous year, the return of men (who had enlisted in the labour corps in connection with the war) with money from overseas, and the ravages of the influenza epidemic are mentioned as contributory to the decrease (11·08 per cent) in the district of Ranchi. The decrease in Singhbhum was by 18·3 per cent and is assigned to " the excellence of the crops in 1917-18 ". Chota Nagpur Division.

**153.** The total number of companies, limited by shares, working at the close of the year under report, remained the same as at the beginning of the year, namely, 33 ; the aggregate authorized capital decreased from Rs. 46,90,000 to Rs. 45,46,200 but the aggregate paid-up capital increased from Rs. 15,25,867 to Rs. 15,32,524. Of these only three are private companies and their aggregate authorized and paid-up capitals are Rs. 2,86,000 and Rs. 1,04,934, respectively. The number of companies limited by guarantee at the close of the year under report was eight, as at the close of the preceding year. Working of the Indian Companies Act, VII of 1913.

Two new Public Companies, limited by shares, styled the Behar Journals, Limited, and the Praja Bandhu, Limited, were registered and incorporated during the year under report, after licenses under section 3(1) of the Indian Companies Restriction Act, 1918 (XII of 1918), had been obtained by their provisional secretaries from the Government of India in the Finance Department permitting the registration of the said companies on the condition that their paid-up capitals during the currency of the said Act should not exceed Rs. 99,000 and Rs. 50,000, respectively. The share capitals of both the companies are divided into shares of Rs. 10 each and their objects are printing and publishing in general, and in particular books, newspapers, journals and other periodicals. The registered offices of both are in Patna. The Behar Journals, Limited, commenced its business during the year. No private company was registered during the year.

No new company, limited by guarantee, was registered during the year. The New Patna Club which was first registered on the 27th March 1918 as a company, limited by guarantee, was re-registered on the 28th June 1918 as an Association not for profit without the addition of the word " Limited " to its name, after a licence under the Indian Companies Restriction Act (XII of 1918), permitting the registration of the Club, had been granted by the Government of India on condition that the value of the debentures issued by the Club during the currency of the said Act would not exceed Rs. 30,000 and also a license under section 26 of the Indian Companies Act (VII of 1913) had been granted by the Local Government ; the original registration of the company on the 27th March 1918, i.e., after the Indian Companies Restriction Act, 1918, came into force (22nd March 1918) was *ultra vires*. The South Bihar Gymkhana Club, also a company, limited by guarantee, registered on the 24th February 1916 under the Indian Companies Act (VII of 1913) was, in June 1918, granted by the Local Government a license under section 26 of the said Act for the registration of the Club with limited liability without the addition of the word " Limited " to its name.

Towards the close of the year under report, one company established outside British India, viz., the Burma Mines, Limited, incorporated in England,

which has a place of business at Jamshedpur (Sakchi) in this Province, submitted the documents required to be filed under section 277 of the Act; but as the printed copy of the memorandum and the Articles of Association were not certified in the manner laid down in Rule 7B of the Indian Companies Rules, 1914, the document was returned and the company was asked to file a duly certified copy as required by law. The document was not filed by the company before the close of the year.

Of the twenty-three companies incorporated outside British India which are mentioned in paragraph 157 of the preceding year's report having places of business in this province, the following three companies ceased to exist, viz.:—

(1) The Indian Collieries Syndicate, Limited, incorporated in England, which had its principal place of business at Jharia in this province. Messrs. Kilburn and Company of Calcutta, who were the Managing Agents of the company, reported that the entire rights and interests of the Syndicate, which was in liquidation, had been acquired by the Tata Iron and Steel Company, Limited.

(2) The Dickson-Irwin (Kodarma) Mica Mining Syndicate, Limited, incorporated in England, having a place of business at Kodarma (Hazaribagh). This company was also in liquidation. Messrs. Hoare Miller and Company of Calcutta, who were the agents of the Syndicate, reported that so far as India was concerned the liquidation was completed and the property of the Syndicate was sold by public auction; in fact the Syndicate ceased to carry on business in British India.

(3) The Purtabpore Company, Limited, incorporated in Scotland, having its principal place of business at Purtabpore, Mairwa (Saran). The Manager of the company reported that the Purtabpore Company, Limited (incorporated in Scotland), went into liquidation and a new company, also styled Purtabpore Company, incorporated and registered in the Province of Bengal with its head office in Calcutta, took over charge of the affairs of the old Company.

**Penalties.**

**154.** As far as can be ascertained, from the reports of District Officers who were requested to make inquiries, it appears that the provisions of section 136 of the Act were complied with, during the year, by the limited banking and other companies working in their districts to which the provisions of the said section apply. On account of non-compliance with the provisions of this section by the branch office at Gaya of the Bank of Bihar, Limited, the manager of the branch office of the Bank was prosecuted by the Magistrate of Gaya under section 136 (4) of the Act and the case was tried in the court of the Subdivisional Officer, Gaya. The accused was, however, given the benefit of the doubt by the trying Magistrate and was acquitted. No other prosecution was instituted under the Act during the year.

**Compliance with the provisions of law.**

**155.** In the case of the two annual returns, viz., the balance sheet and the summary of capital and list of shareholders, generally reminders have to be issued inviting the attention of companies to the requirements of sections 32 and 134 of the Indian Companies Act, VII of 1913, before those two documents are due. Balance sheets are now audited only by auditors who are authorized to act as such under section 144 of the Act. During the year ten provisional restricted certificates have been granted by the Local Government of which seven are renewals of temporary certificates previously issued. There were altogether thirteen holders of restricted certificates granted by the Government of Bihar and Orissa at the end of the year of which two are permanent. Intimation was also received from the Registrars of Companies of other provinces about the grant of unrestricted certificates by the other Local Governments; there were twenty-nine holders of such certificates who are entitled to act as auditors throughout British India.

**156.** One company, viz., the Bengal Behar Trading Corporation, Limited' of Muzaffarpur, went into liquidation by an extraordinary resolution passed in a general meeting held on the 26th May 1918. As reported in paragraph 162 of the last year's report, complaints were received against this company towards the end of December 1917 ; the matter was inquired into in January 1918 by a Deputy Collector under the orders of the District Magistrate. Since then the operations of the company were kept under observation ; the inquiry put people on their guard. The shareholders summoned an extraordinary general meeting to wind it up voluntarily. Another company, viz., the All-India Printing and Publishing Company and Educational Syndicate, Limited, was struck off the register, in pursuance of section 247 of the Indian Companies Act, VII of 1913. Action under section 247 of the Act was taken in respect of the latter as there appeared to be very little chance of the company—which was registered in December 1916—being ever floated. The aggregate authorized and paid-up capitals of these two companies were Rs. 3,00,000 and Rs. 8,251, respectively. Liquidation proceedings.

**157.** During the year, a license under the Indian Companies Restriction Act, 1918 (XII of 1918), was granted by the Government of India in the Finance Department permitting the Bank of Behar, Limited, to increase the paid-up capital of the Bank, during the currency of the said Act, by a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,19,340 by selling shares of the capital of the Bank, and by making calls on issued shares. Licenses were also granted under the Act by the Government of India to two other companies during the year, viz., to the Jamalpur Ice Company, Limited, permitting the Company to increase its authorized and paid-up capitals from Rs. 17,800 to a sum not exceeding Rs. 25,000 by the creation and issue of 720 shares of Rs. 10 each and to the Jamalpur Co-operative Stores Association, Limited, permitting it to increase its authorized and paid-up capitals to Rs. 16,000 by the transfer of Rs. 8,000 from the reserve fund. The last named company, however, decided subsequently by a special resolution not to increase the share capital and returned the license to the Government of India. Altogether seven companies increased their paid-up capitals by amounts aggregating Rs. 5,926 but there was no reduction of capital. Capital.

**158.** Three new societies were registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 (XXI of 1860), viz. Working of Act XXI of 1860.

(1) "Vidwat Samiti" started mainly with the object of encouraging the learning of Sanskrit.

(2) The Chota Nagpur Diocesan Church Society, established with the object of making provision for preaching the Gospel in the Diocese of Chota Nagpur and in particular of establishing, maintaining and managing churches, schools, colleges, hospitals and other institutions as are likely to promote or further the said work.

(3) "The Behar Landholders' Association", the main object of this association being to protect by legitimate and constitutional means the interests of the landholders of Bihar and Orissa, and to adopt measures for the general advancement of the province.

There were altogether sixteen societies registered under the Act in this province at the close of the year.

**159.** No Life Assurance Companies or Provident Insurance Societies were registered in this province during the year under report. Working of Acts V and VI of 1912.

**160.** Fees realized under the Acts during the year amounted to Rs. 941 as compared with Rs. 961-13-0 in the year 1917-18. Fees.

**161.** Under the Brahmo Marriage Act of 1872 (Act III of 1872) ten marriages were registered during the year as compared with nine in 1917-18. No widow was remarried during the year. Brahmo Marriage Act III of 1872.

Working of the Muhammadan Marriage Registration Act and Qazis' Act.

**162.** Act I (B. C.) of 1876 was in force in seven districts in the province. No new office was opened, the number of offices remained at 37. * In eleven offices no registration took place. The number of ceremonies registered was the same as in the preceding year, viz., 377. The total receipt of the Qazi Registrars including gratuities amounted to Rs. 671-10-0 compared with Rs. 627-4-0 in the previous year.

* Correct figure for last year being 37 and not 36 printed in error.

## Municipalities.

[Resolution on the working of municipalities in Bihar and Orissa during the year 1918-19.]

### PART I.

Number and constitution of Municipalities.

**163.** There was no change in the number of municipalities. The cases of the twenty-four municipalities contained in Schedule II of the Municipal Act were again examined and the privilege of electing their Chairman was conferred on fourteen of them, including Gaya, Ranchi, Hazaribagh and Giridih. Of the fifty-six municipalities in the province forty-six now possess this right, although not all of them have been willing to exercise it. In forty-nine, two-thirds of the municipal commissioners are elected; in view of the backward condition of the remaining seven, it was decided to postpone the extension of the suffrage in their cases. Instructions were issued prohibiting the nomination of District and Subdivisional Officers as municipal commissioners in municipalities which possess the right to elect their Chairmen. These officers can now be elected as Chairmen only when the commissioners at a meeting pass a special resolution requesting Government to appoint them. The number of elected non-official Chairmen was seventeen as compared with fourteen in the previous year and that of nominated non-official Chairmen two, as against three in the previous year. In two municipalities, viz., Dinapore-Nizamat and Sahibganj, the former of which has only recently received the privilege of election, the choice of a Chairman aroused strong party feeling and the election was carried out in each case with great difficulty after a complete deadlock.

Elections.

**164.** Except in Orissa and Chota Nagpur, the elections of commissioners held during the year were generally contested. The secret ballot introduced with the revised election rules in the year 1917 is reported by the Commissioner of Tirhut to have been to a great extent successful in preventing corruption. In Bihar proper, especially in the larger municipalities, the percentage of votes recorded in nearly all cases exceeded 60 per cent. But in a few of the smaller towns and in the other two divisions, even when contests took place, the number recording their votes was often far below that level. It may be gathered from the reports that in all cases, with the exception of Patna City, the issues raised at the elections were purely personal.

Number of meetings and attendance of Commissioners.

**165.** The number of meetings held during the year fulfilled in most cases the statutory requirement. Twenty or more meetings were held by the municipal commissioners of Barh (27), Chakradharpur (27), Lalganj (24), Dumka (22), Kishanganj (21), and Balasore (20). In Chakradharpur and Balasore there were no abortive meetings, but in Barh five meetings were adjourned; in Lalganj an equal number proved abortive for want of a quorum, and in Kishanganj eight meetings fell through on one or other of the above grounds. The Revelganj (9) and Jamalpur (11) municipalities failed to hold the statutory number of meetings, while in the Roserah municipality, which is notorious for its backward condition, five meetings were abandoned for want of a quorum and one was adjourned.

The resolutions of Government in recent years have seldom chronicled any appreciable advance in the interest taken by municipal commissioners in the duties of administration, and the present year affords on the whole no exception. In spite of the imminence of important developments in Self-Government progress is very slow. In one case, however, viz., Patna City Municipality, a marked change in the attitude towards business has taken place. In the year 1918 the elections were for the first time in the history of the Municipality contested, and hotly contested, on the lines of a definite parochial policy. A strong party in the Board

was returned with a definite mandate for retrenchment of expenditure and for efficient management within the resources of the municipality. Among other towns, where the commissioners as a body are reported to take a keen and intelligent interest in their work, are Gaya, Motihari and Barh. For the most part municipal administration, where successful, still relies on the efforts of one or two public spirited men.

The total receipts, including opening balances amounted to Rs. 51,67,226 and the disbursements to Rs. 38,89,519 leaving a closing balance o Rs. 12,77,707. The main items of income and expenditure during the pas two years are compared below :—

| | Income. | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 1917-18 | 1918-19 | Increase (+) or Decrease (—). |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. |
| Opening balance ... ... | 11,24,880 | 10,17,120 | —1,07,760 |
| Municipal rates and taxes ... | 17,08,766 | 18,38,150 | +1,29,384 |
| Realization under special Acts ... | 44,198 | 46,871 | +2,673 |
| Revenue derived from Municipal property and powers apart from taxation. | 2,62,078 | 2,44,686 | —17,392 |
| Grants and contributions ... | 8,93,812 | 11,39,909 | +2,46,067 |
| Miscellaneous ... ... | 54,465 | 89,905 | +35,440 |
| Extraordinary and debts ... | 6,69,673 | 7,90,585 | +1,20,912 |
| Total ... | 45,57,902 | 51,67,226 | +4,09,324 |

| | Expenditure. | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 1917-18 | 1918-19 | Increase + or Decrease (—). |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. |
| General Administration and collection charges. | 1,86,808 | 1,98,657 | +11,849 |
| Public safety ... ... | 1,43,344 | 1,67,097 | +23,753 |
| Public health and convenience ... | 25,87,863 | 26,26,719 | +38,856 |
| Public instruction ... ... | 1,56,457 | 1,69,179 | +12,722 |
| Contributions ... ... | 11,643 | 14,176 | +2,533 |
| Miscellaneous ... ... | 1,05,542 | 1,40,995 | +35,453 |
| Extraordinary and debt ... | 5,47,088 | 5,72,696 | +25,608 |
| Closing balance ... ... | 10,19,157 | 12,77,707 | +2,58,550 |
| Total ... | 47,57,902 | 51,67,226 | +4,09,324 |

## PART II.—TAXATION.

Assessment and taxation.

**166.** The income realized from local taxation was Rs. 18,38,150 as against Rs. 17,08,766 in 1917-18, the increase being largely due to general or partial revision of assessment and to the assessment on new and improved buildings. In one or two exceptional cases, e.g., Giridih, the rate of taxation was enhanced. Improvement in collections helped to account for a considerable increase (Rs. 23,023) in the revenues of Patna City. General revisions of assessment were carried out in Arrah, Buxar, Dumraon, Bhabhua, Siwan, Samastipur, Colgong, Kishanganj, Forbesganj, Deoghar and Balasore, but in no case except Arrah (Rs. 6,292) was any large increase recorded. Owing to the patent insufficiency of the assessment of the tax on persons in Jhalda Municipality at the last revision, a fresh revision was carried out under the orders of Government and resulted in a rise from Rs. 2,602 to Rs. 4,191. This was a particularly noticeable instance of that reluctance on the part of the rate-payers and their representatives, whether nominated or elected to face the growing need for increased taxation. Revisions are still too often little more than an elaborate pretence and bear no proportion to the incresed prosperity of the places concerned. The assessors may or may not make a strict assessment, but if they do, it is usually much reduced on appeal, till the net result is sometimes hardly worth the expense and trouble involved. It has not yet been generally realized that provincial revenues are not increasing in proportion to the need for expenditure. The illusion of the inexhaustible purse of Government still persists, and while many urban bodies support in theory costly schemes of Sanitary improvement, their suggestions for financing them often do not go beyond a declaration of poverty and an appeal for a Government grant. The incidence of taxation per head of population is not high ; the average is less than Rs. 1-12-0 and no where does it exceed Rs. 2-4-8 except in Sambalpur where although it is not a wealthy town, taxation produces Rs. 5-1-0 per inhabitant. It cannot be said therefore that the burden of municipal taxation in other towns is as great as the rate-payers can be expected to bear. There is undoubtedly a considerable margin for increase, especially in some of the larger municipalities. It will probably be necessary to assimilate Indian to English municipal law under which there is no statutory limit to the rate which may be imposed. The present limits, which often hamper municipal progress, are the outcome of a time when few local bodies were organized on a true elective basis.

Collections.

**167.** In spite of the onset of a period of economic depression, the realization of the demand showed generally a slight increase on that of the previous year. The general result may be regarded as satisfactory, but in some municipalities the state of collections is anything but creditable, and the Examiner of Local Accounts in his annual review attributes the unsound financial position of Darbhanga and Roserah in particular to lack of attention to collections. The outstanding taxes were heaviest in Patna City (Rs. 35,518), Darbhanga (Rs. 29,994), Monghyr (Rs. 20,500) and Ranchi (Rs. 20,025). The heavy balacne in Patna City is attributed to the faulty procedure of allowing demands to accumulate up to the fourth quarter before instituting belated though vigorous collections. This system is now being changed to one of strict quarterly collections, and it is hoped that better results will be achieved next year. In Darbhanga the discovery of a serious embezzlement stopped collections for nearly three months while the audit was in progress, and the demand for the fourth quarter was not realized. The audit revealed a most serious lack of control over the collecting staff, and the collection accounts were in such arrears that it was difficult to ascertain with certainty the actual extent of the defalcations. The serious financial position at Darbhanga is undoubtedly due to long-standing want of supervision. In Monghyr the extent of the arrears is said to be due chiefly to the fact that the tax on arable lands from 1900-01 to 1911-12 amounting to Rs. 23,691 could not be recovered in the absence of the correct survey of the town. As a result the bulk of it had finally to be remitted as being barred by limitation, while the commissioners are endeavouring to recover the balance by civil suits. On the other hand, the report of the officer in charge of the municipal survey

recently carried out indicates that the non-recovery of the amount was due more to lack of a serious attempt to collect it than to inaccuracies in the previous survey. Whatever the reasons, the percentage of remissions attained the alarming figure of 31·5. In the case of Ranchi, no explanation of the large outstanding balance is given, and in view of the fact that this municipality has for several years shown a large balance, a close examination of the procedure of collection is incumbent on the commissioners. Remissions are still in some cases too high. Jhalda (11·9 per cent) holding prominent position in this respect.

## PART III.—ACCOUNTS.

**168.** The total receipts including opening balances amounted to Rs. 51,67,226 showing an increase of Rs. 4,09,324 over the figures of the previous year. The aggregate disbursements have risen from Rs. 37,38,745 to Rs. 38,89,519. The percentage of general administration and collection charges on total expenditure was heavy in the municipalities of Chakradharpur (21·3), Tikari (19·2), Jhalda (17·8), Khagaul (15·6), Revelganj (13·4), Dumraon (11·8), Giridih (11·8) and Lalganj (11·3). Receipts, Disbursements, Office and Collection Establishment.

**169.** There was an increase in expenditure in all branches of municipal administration except under hospitals and dispensaries, viz., Rs. 55,347 on conservancy ; Rs. 41,341 on drainage ; Rs. 39,837 on public works ; Rs. 23,938 on lighting ; Rs. 12,722 on public instruction ; Rs. 5,672 on water-supply ; and Rs. 3,137 on account of plague and other epidemic diseases. The outlay on hospitals and dispensaries fell by Rs. 66,011 mainly owing to the provincialization of the Bankipore General Hospital of which the accounts are no longer incorporated in the returns of the local municipality. Expenditure.

**170.** Large grants were made to the following Municipalities :— Contributions.

Patna Administration Committee, Rs. 2,13,360 (including Rs. 1,50,000 for conservancy and lighting, Rs. 31,500 for general purposes, Rs. 15,163 for the market) ; Motihari Municipality, Rs. 1,10,927 (including Rs. 75,000 for water-supply and Rs. 34,244 for improvement of the hospital) ; Gaya Municipality Rs. 93,042 (including Rs. 61,178 for Sanitary improvement and Rs. 19,800 for primary education) ; Muzaffarpur Municipality, Rs. 80,730 (including Rs. 75,000 for sewerage scheme) ; Patna City Municipality Rs. 51,280 (including Rs. 20,000 for roads and Rs. 22,420 for maintenance of water-works).

**171.** The aggregate closing balances rose from Rs. 10,19,157 to Rs. 12,77,707. The increase is reported to be largely due to inability to spend the Government grants given for specific purposes owing to the scarcity of materials and the high prices prevailing. A tendency has however been noted by auditors in recent years for local bodies in general to accumulate excessive balances. Closing balances.

**172.** At the last audit the Examiner of Local Accounts found that the liabilities exceeded the assets in the municipalities of Chapra, Darbhanga, Roserah, Cuttack and Jajpur. In Darbhanga the monthly closing balance did not exceed Rs. 600 against the minimum working balance of Rs. 8,000 prescribed by the Commissioner of the Division, and in October 1918 the treasury balance was entirely exhausted and overdrawn. In this municipality, as well as in Jajpur, the outstanding bills remaining unpaid amounted to Rs. 8,359 and Rs. 344 respectively against a closing balance of Rs. 355 and Rs. 110 only in each case. In Roserah also the prescribed working balance was not maintained. Audit of Accounts.

**173.** Jagdishpur, Buxar, Bhabhua, Revelganj, Balasore, Bettiah, Jhalda, Lohardaga and Forbesganj were also reported to be in difficulties, their net assets being insufficient to cover two months' working charges while among the larger municipalities Arrah and Hazaribagh are in a somewhat precarious position. In the case of Arrah it has been definitely reported that the substitution of a tax on holding for a tax on persons would put straight the municipal finances. The Monghyr municipality is reported to be on the verge of Unsatisfactory financial position of certain municipalities.

bankruptcy, owing chiefly to its improvidence in undertaking under pressure from inspecting officers a number of big schemes without considering the necessity of providing for the recurring expenditure which they involved; and partly also to a neglect of all accounts rules. It will be necessary for the municipality to undergo a severe course of retrenchment before it can attain financial solvency.

Embezzlements.

**174.** Embezzlements are still common, and during the year cases were detected in the Darbhanga, Dumka, Sitamarhi, Purnea, Monghyr, Forbesganj and Balasore municipalities. Thefts of money were reported from Chatra, Purulia, and the Patna Administration Committee. The increasing number of frauds discovered emphasizes the importance of regular and detailed audit, and the necessity for active supervision on the part of local bodies. These embezzlements are nearly always committed by the collecting staff, and more systematic control is urgently needed both to stop these malpractices and to improve municipal finances.

Loans.

**175.** The outstanding loan liabilities of the municipalities amounted to Rs. 6,42,000 on the 31st March 1919 as compared with Rs. 7,07,327 in the previous year. No fresh loans of importance were taken up. It is to be hoped that municipalities will in future have recourse more freely to loans to finance their capital expenditure. This method is very generally favoured in modern municipal practice in Europe. At present municipalities show reluctance in applying for loans of any considerable amount and indeed few can afford to do so until they bring their nominal assessments on holdings to a basis more nearly approaching reality.

Conservancy.

**176.** The expenditure on conservancy rose further from Rs. 8,19,668 to Rs. 8,75,015 and it is evident that the programmes prepared for each municipality by the sanitation department are beginning to come into operation. In particular the reorganization of the conservancy system carried out by Dr. Tiwari in the Patna City Municipality has been properly maintained in spite of many difficulties and the loss of the municipal Health Officer. The inspection notes of the Sanitary Commissioner and his assistants show that there are many shortcomings in the conservancy arrangements of the smaller municipalities, of which one of the worst and most insanitary appears to be the Sitamarhi Municipality.

Waterworks and drainage.

**177.** There was no change in the number of municipalities levying a water-rate. The Muzaffarpur project is nearly completed and proposals have now been made for the levy of a rate, while the Patna-Bankipore waterworks have been opened during the year and water-rates will shortly be assessed. The Monghyr and Bhagalpur municipalities have had difficulty with their waterworks which will involve them in considerable expenditure. Progress has been made with a number of important schemes. Outline projects have been prepared for Patna City, Chapra and Deoghar, while the Motihari and Jamalpur projects are practically complete. The Puri scheme, which is of vital importance not only to the province but to the whole of India, will, it is hoped, be ready for construction to commence in the cold weather of 1920-21. Except in the Patna Division there was no appreciable increase in expenditure on drainage schemes, and the total capital outlay was still small. Good progress was made however with the first block of the Patna City drainage scheme, and with the surface drainage scheme for Madhupur. A number of other projects are still under preparation by the Sanitary Engineer or pending consideration of the municipalities concerned.

## PART IV.—GENERAL.

General observation.

**178.** From the point of view of municipal administration the year was uneventful, the only important development being the extension of the privilege of electing their chairmen to fourteen municipalities, as recorded above. The effect of the war still operated as an obstacle to the execution of many long-pending projects of urgency. One of its most serious effects is the dearth of men qualified for appointment as Health Officer, with the result that even now, out of twelve municipalities for which Government

have undertaken to pay the full cost of a Health Officer, only six possess one. It is now clear that there are other causes for the lack of candidates besides the needs of the army, and among these are the insufficiency of the pay offered and the want of definite prospects. The whole matter is under consideration and it is hoped shortly to offer improved conditions to properly qualified men.

## Puri Lodging House Act.

[Report on the working of the Puri Lodging House Act during the year 1918-19.]

**179.** The Act was in force in the same towns and places as in the previous year. **Extent of application.**

**180.** The number of lodging houses in Gaya licensed under the Act during the year was 225 against 337 and the number of lodgers for whom accommodation was provided was 15,880 against 23,005 in the previous year. In Deoghar the number of lodging houses and the number of lodgers fell from 78 and 3,923 to 76 and 3,868 respectively. In the Orissa Division there was a decrease in the total number of licensed lodging houses as well as in the number of lodgers. The figures fell from 370 and 15,342 to 315 and 13,284 respectively. **Number of licensed lodging houses and lodgers.**

**181.** There were 233 prosecutions and the total fines realized amounted to Rs. 5,228. **Offences under the Act.**

**182.** The total income of the Lodging House funds amounted to Rs. 65,949. In Puri and Deoghar there was an increase of Rs. 10,522 and Rs. 2,674, respectively whereas in Gaya the income fell from Rs. 26,589 to Rs. 20,752. **Income.**

**183.** The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 63,342. In Gaya the expenditure increased from Rs. 26,679 to Rs. 28,570. In Puri and Deoghar the increase was Rs. 117 and Rs. 1,859, respectively. **Expenditure.**

**184.** The general health of the towns of Puri and Deoghar was reported to be good but Gaya was seriously affected by the outbreak of influenza. **Health and Sanitation.**

## District Boards.

[Resolution on the working of District Boards in Bihar and Orissa during the year 1918-19.]

**185.** There was no addition to the number of District and Local Boards during the year. Five new Union Committees were constituted—four unions at Aurangabad, Nabinagar, Arwal and Raniganj-Imamganj in Gaya district and one at Banka in the district of Bhagalpur. The number now in existence is thirty-eight. **Number of District and Local Boards and Union Committees.**

**186.** This year as usual shows an increase in the number of meetings held by the eighteen District Boards. Including the District Council of Sambalpur 317 meetings were held as against 297 in the preceding year. The percentage of abortive meetings however shows a concomitant rise from fourteen to twenty-one. None of the District Boards failed to complete the statutory minimum of twelve meetings in the year while the average percentage of attendance of official members varied from fifty in Ranchi to eighty-eight in Darbhanga, and that of non-officials from thirty-two in Palamau to eighty-eight in Hazaribagh. The low percentage of attendance of non-official members in Palamau is reported to be due to the prevalence of epidemics and to settlement proceedings under sections 87 and 85 of the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act. The District Boards of Champaran, Monghyr, Cuttack and Balasore were reconstituted. In Gaya a further devolution of functions took place in the transfer of the primary schools hitherto managed by the District Board to the control of the Local Boards, while in the Jamui and **District Boards, number of meetings and attendance of members.**

Begusarai Subdivisions of Monghyr the control of all stipendiary schools was entrusted to the Boards.

Local Boards. Number of meetings and attendance of members.

**187.** A considerable increase in the activity of Local Bodies is reported. The number of meetings rose from 519 to 582, while the number which proved abortive for want of a quorum fell from thirty-three to twenty-five. With the exception of Barh in the district of Patna, Jamui in the district of Monghyr and Khurda in the district of Puri, all the Local Boards met at least once a month. The percentage of attendance of non-officials was highest (75 per cent) in Barh (district Patna) and lowest (30 per cent) in Bargarh (District Sambalpur). The Local Boards of Samastipur and Madhubani in the district of Darbhanga and the three Local Boards in the district of Monghyr were re-constituted during the year, and general elections were held during the year for all the Local Boards in the Patna District. The elective system has not yet been extended to Local Boards outside the Patna Division and the district of Sambalpur but Government are considering the desirability of doing so as soon as it is practicable.

In the Patna Division there was little change in the powers exercised by Local Boards. In Patna and in Shahabad a number of roads which were not routes of general traffic or through-traffic were transferred to their control. In Shahabad the length transferred amounted to 157½ miles. The Giridih Local Board in the district of Hazaribagh was given the additional power to pass all repair estimates up to Rs. 2,500 and the Dhanbad Local Board in the district of Manbhum was entrusted with the maintenance of twenty-nine roads and seven wells, the management of eleven pounds, eight *serais* and five tanks and the control of all primary schools within the Dhanbad subdivision outside the area of the Dhanbad Union Committee. It was also entrusted with the power of controlling the vaccination work in the subdivision outside the Mining Settlement area. In Sambalpur the Local Boards were little more than advisory bodies and their powers of supervision and management were confined to a few petty works,

Union Committees.

**188.** The aggregate income of these bodies amounted to Rs. 79,708 against Rs. 63,602 in the preceding year, and the total amount spent by them was Rs. 77,484 against Rs. 58,655 in the preceding year. Twenty-five union committees received annual contributions from the District Boards amounting to Rs. 600 or more and twenty-nine levied special taxes for sanitary purposes under section 118 C of the Bengal Local Self-Government Act, yielding Rs. 32,845 against Rs. 26,726 in the previous year. The union committees at Gopalganj and Maharajganj in Saran and at Dalsingsarai in Darbhanga were reconstituted during the year. The Dhanbad Union Committee in Manbhum has been converted into a municipality with effect from the 1st April 1919 in view of the growing importance of that mining centre, and the question of establishment of a new union at Manbazar in that district is under contemplation. The formation and development of unions is still proceeding slowly and their activities were confined, as before, almost entirely to sanitary measures and conservancy arrangements, occasional repairs to village roads, the management of primary schools and pounds and the improvement of the supply of drinking water.

The Gopalganj union committee in the district of Saran was granted as a special case the sum of Rs. 1,894 for street lighting out of the Commissioner's allotment for petty local works. The power to arrange for the lighting of the streets of a village is under the consideration of Government. The area of the Jagatsingpur union in the district of Cuttack was reconstituted with a reduced area of 8 square miles.

Financial Results.

**189.** The year opened with a balance of Rs. 22,70,571 to the credit of District Boards and the total receipts including direct taxation by Union Committees amounted to Rs. 99,33,495. The aggregate amount available for expenditure was thus Rs. 1,22,04,066 of which Rs. 94,99,867 was spent, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 27,04,199.

The income and expenditure under the main heads of account during the past two years are compared below :—

INCOME.

| | 1917-18 | | 1918-19 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Amount. | Percentage of total income. | Amount. | Percentage of total income. |
| | Rs. | | Rs. | |
| Land Revenue ... ... ... ... | 16,626 | ·18 | 22,615 | ·22 |
| Provincial rates ... ... ... | 54,60,780 | 61·7 | 57,60,214 | 57 98 |
| Interest ... ... ... ... | 49,187 | ·55 | 74,308 | ·74 |
| Law and justice ... ... ... | 26,418 | ·3 | 26,398 | ·26 |
| Police (Pounds) ... ... ... | 2,10,288 | 2·3 | 2,25,360 | 2·25 |
| Education ... ... ... ... | 11,31,563 | 12·8 | 10,36,634 | 10·43 |
| Medical ... ... ... ... | 1,01,053 | 1·14 | 1,04,190 | 1·04 |
| Scientific and other Minor Departments ... | 16,665 | ·19 | 16,910 | ·18 |
| Receipts in aid of Compassionate allowance ... | 233 | ·002 | 233 | ·002 |
| Stationery and Printing .. ... ... | 4,473 | ·05 | 2,675 | ·03 |
| Miscellaneous ... ... ... ... | 22,089 | ·24 | 51,423 | ·51 |
| Railways ... ... ... ... | 5,582 | ·06 | 7,394 | ·07 |
| Civil Works (including ferries) ... ... | 11,31,241 | 12·7 | 11,97,063 | 12·05 |
| Loans ... ... ... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Deposits and advance ... ... ... | 6,71,270 | 7·6 | 14,08,078 | 14·11 |
| Total ... | 89,47,468 | ... | 99,33,495 | ... |

EXPENDITURE.

| | 1917-18 | | 1918-19 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Amount. | Percentage of total expenditure. | Amount. | Percentage of total expenditure. |
| | Rs. | | Rs. | |
| Interest and debt ... ... ... | 17,859 | ·2 | 14,977 | ·15 |
| Administration ... ... ... | 2,14,063 | 2·47 | 2,28,767 | 2·40 |
| Police (Pounds) ... ... ... | 14,694 | ·17 | 15,636 | ·16 |
| Education ... ... ... ... | 15,29,714 | 17·6 | 15,88,090 | 16·71 |
| Medical ... ... ... ... | 7,04,770 | 8·1 | 8,05,491 | 8·48 |
| Scientific and other Minor Departments ... | 1,11,003 | 1·2 | 1,34,944 | 1·42 |
| Superannuation allowances and pensions ... | 83,768 | ·96 | 70,716 | ·74 |
| Stationery and Printing ... ... ... | 48,095 | ·55 | 53,286 | ·56 |
| Miscellaneous ... ... ... | 21,889 | ·25 | 34,605 | ·36 |
| Famine relief ... ... ... | 2,335 | ·002 | 2,625 | ·03 |
| Railways ... ... ... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| (Civil Works—Public Works) ... ... | 47,94,299 | 55·3 | 48,12,919 | 50·66 |
| Repayment of loans ... ... ... | 31,605 | ·36 | 29,868 | ·31 |
| Deposits and Advances ... ... ... | 10,84,520 | 12·5 | 16,99,946 | 17·89 |
| Total ... | 86,58,614 | ... | 94,99,867 | ... |

INCOME.

**190.** (Rs. 22,615.)—The increase was due mainly to the additional income derived from taxes levied by the Union Committees at Khagaria, Gogri and Haveli-Kharagpur in Monghyr, Madhipura and Supaul in the district of Bhagalpur, Kasba in the district of Purnea and the Union Committees in the districts of Ranchi and Manbhum. Land Revenue.

**191.** (Rs. 57,60,214.)—The receipts under this head show a net increase of Rs. 2,99,434 which is shared by all the District Boards in the Province, except Patna, Muzaffarpur, Monghyr and Balasore, and is made up as follows :— Provincial Rates.

| | Rs. |
|---|---|
| Patna Division ... ... ... ... | 44,819 |
| Tirhut ,, ... ... ... ... | 37,246 |
| Bhagalpur ,, ... ... ... ... | 51,809 |
| Chota Nagpur Division ... ... ... ... | 1,20,179 |
| Orissa Division ... ... ... ... | 45,381 |
| Total ... | 2,99,434 |

The increase in the Patna Division was partly due to more satisfactory realization of arrears and partly to the extraordinary receipts from the sale proceeds of forms in connection with the revaluation of cesses in the district

of Gaya. In the Tirhut Division the increase is attributed to the better collection of cess. Larger collection of arrears of previous years and better collection of the current demand account for the increase in the Bhagalpur Division. The greatest increase occurred in the Chota Nagpur Division which was due in part to better collection of cesses and in part to the annual revision of assessment on coal mines in Manbhum which showed a larger profit as a result of the recent coal boom. In the Orissa Division, the increase in Cuttack was due to collection of arrears and in Puri mainly to revaluation.

Police Pounds.

**192.** (Rs. 2,25,360.)—The number of pounds rose from 1,394 to 1,417 and the receipts under this head from Rs. 2,10,288 to Rs. 2,25,361. The system of triennial settlement of pounds has been abandoned by a number of Boards. In Purnea it is being replaced by annual settlement as it was found to be unsatisfactory and in the Bhagalpur Division remained in force only in the Supaul subdivision of Bhagalpur. Annual settlements are also made in the Nawada subdivision of Gaya district and in Champaran and Darbhanga. In Muzaffarpur, however, pounds are settled both on three-year and one-year leases.

Contributions.

**193.** The usual grants of Rs. 50,000, were placed at the disposal of each Commissioner for augmenting the resources of the District Boards and District Committees. Grants amounting to Rs. 43,486, were also distributed *pro rata* among the Boards for the improvement of water-supply in rural areas.

Loans.

**194.** No loans were taken by any District Board during the year.

EXPENDITURE.

Administration.

**195.** (Rs. 2,28,767.)—The total expenditure under this head rose from Rs. 2,14,063 to Rs. 2,28,767 showing an increase of Rs. 14,704 which was shared by all the divisions, viz., Patna Rs. 2,630, Tirhut Rs. 6,662, Bhagalpur Rs. 512, Chota Nagpur Rs. 1,551, and Orissa Rs. 3,349. This increase was due to periodical increments to salaries, war and grain compensation allowance and increase in the price of stationery.

Education.

**196.** (Rs. 15,88,090.)—There was a slight increase in expenditure (Rs. 58,376) on Education in the year under report although the income under this head was somewhat less than in the previous year.

The decrease from Rs. 11,31,563 to Rs. 10,36,634 was shared by almost all districts in the province and was due directly to the fact that Boards had in the previous years received a special non-recurring grant to the extent of one lakh towards increased emoluments for primary school teachers which swelled the receipts abnormally; and secondly to the transfer of middle English schools from the Boards to Government control and the consequent cessation of the Government grants paid to the Board for their support. The decrease in actual income was however balanced by the fact that considerable District Board funds were simultaneously set free for expenditure on primary education.

Special schools.

**197.** The number of industrial schools aided by District Boards fell from 10 to 8, but the number of pupils attending them increased by 13. No Industrial schools were maintained by the District Boards during the year. Scholarships were however awarded to students attending other special schools such as the Bihar School of Engineering, the Veterinary College at Belgachia, the Deaf and Dumb School, the Medical College and the Government weaving institute at Serampore. The Cuttack District Board continued to maintain two peripatetic sewing mistresses for sewing and kindergarten teaching in girls' schools. The Cuttack weaving school and the boys' industrial school at Balasore continued to do useful work.

Medical.

**198.** (Rs. 6,33,926.)—The increase of Rs. 58,860 in the expenditure on medical relief was shared by all the Boards except Saran, Darbhanga, Hazaribagh, Cuttack and Balasore, and was chiefly due to the abnormal expenditure on medical aid undertaken by the Boards to combat the influenza epidemic. The high price of drugs and medicines also contributed to the general rise in the medical expenditure. In Monghyr, an additional grant of Rs. 2,500 to the Sadr hospital and the payment of grain compensation allowance levelled the expenditure. The increase in Purnea was due to special grants of Rs. 10,000 for the construction of a surgical block for the Sadr dispensary

and of Rs. 1,500 to meet the increased cost of medicine. The increase in Ranchi was due to the supply of additional equipment to in-door dispensaries, cost incurred in visiting hâts on market days for the distribution of medicines and special grants made to the Sadr hospital and some mufassal dispensaries. In Palamau the additional expenditure on account of cholera and influenza was heavy. The increase in Manbhum was due to the maintenance of the Bagmundi dispensary throughout the year against one month in the previous year, the purchase of larger quantities of medicines and the engagement of two temporary medical officers on account of the influenza epidemic, and an increased grant towards the maintenance of the Purulia dispensary. Puri raised its expenditure by the purchase of equipment for certain dispensaries, the entertainment of a doctor during the greater part of the year for epidemic work and by the introduction of the scale of pay sanctioned by Government for the Local Indian Doctor.

New dispensaries were built in Patna, Shahabad, Muzaffarpur, Champaran and Darbhanga. The construction of a new dispensary building at Balikuda in the district of Cuttack was completed, and it will be opened shortly. The floating dispensary at Cuttack has been closed and a new dispensary to take its place will be constructed at Raghunathpur. A new dispensary is being started at Khaira in Balasore. The number of dispensaries maintained by District Boards rose from 165 to 170, but that of aided dispensaries fell from 85 to 81. The cost of the maintenance of the former amounted to Rs. 3,93,656 against Rs. 3,54,343 in the preceding year, and the amount of contribution paid for the latter was Rs. 1,71,413 against Rs. 1,85,036.

The minimum fixed by Government for expenditure on medical works was exceeded by all the Boards except Cuttack and Balasore.

**199.** (Rs. 1,71,565.)—The expenditure rose by Rs. 41,861. The highest expenditure was incurred in Gaya (Rs. 26,902), and the least in Sambalpur (Rs. 1,374). The expenditure in Shahabad was Rs. 22,255, Monghyr Rs. 20,463 and Patna Rs. 17,839. In other Boards the expenditure was below Rs. 50,000. Here again the general increase is due to the measures taken to combat influenza. Outbreaks occurred in practically every district and in most cases prompt steps were taken to give medical assistance. Many Boards distributed quinine free and the available sanitary and medical staff were fully utilized by some Boards. Patna and Monghyr districts engaged a considerable staff of doctors and compounders for the occasion. The sanitary work done included all the cleaning of villages, disinfecting wells and sanitary arrangements at *Melas*. Sanitation.

**200.** (Rs. 1,16,135.)—The expenditure under this head shows an increase of Rs. 26,119 as compared with that of the previous year, and was shared by all the Boards except Patna, Shahabad, Purnea, Puri and Sambalpur. The District Board of Gaya shows the largest expenditure (Rs. 21,362). The activities of this Department are expanding and the people are beginning to appreciate the benefit of protective inoculation against cattle disease. Several Boards purchased bulls for breeding purposes. A Montgomery bull and a Punjab buffalo are maintained at the Bankipur and Dinapore Dispensaries respectively, while in Gaya three bulls were purchased by the Board from the Sepaya farm and made over to the Central Co-operative banks of Gaya, Nawada and Jahanabad. The purchase of two more bulls for Nawada and one for the Aurangabad Central Banks was sanctioned by the Board during the year, but they were not supplied till after the end of the year. The Central Co-operative Banks at Supaul and Madhipura also took up two bulls bought by the Bhagalpur Board and the Monghyr and Manbhum Boards bought two and one bulls respectively from Government farms. Veterinary charges.

**201.** (Rs. 31,321.)—Pensionary charges showed a net decrease of Rs. 12,011. Pension.

**202.** (Rs. 2,625).—The slight increase, Rs. 290, in the expenditure under this head calls for no remarks. Famine Relief.

**203.** (Rs. 48,12,919.)—The total expenditure amounts to Rs. 48,12,919 against Rs. 47,94,299 in the preceding year. Patna, Tirhut, Chota Nagpur and Orissa Divisions showed an increase aggregating to Rs. 1,18,864, while Bhagalpur Division showed a decrease of Rs. 1,00,244. Civil works.

The expenditure on "Original works" under the head "Buildings" fell from Rs. 3,11,063 to Rs. 2,69,424 while that on "repairs" rose from Rs. 62,441 to Rs. 77,365. The total expenditure on "original works" under the head "Communications" fell from Rs. 16,16,796 to Rs. 15,19,569 and that on "repairs" rose from Rs. 17,94,800 to Rs. 19,11,801. The total mileage of metalled roads maintained rose from 1,826 to 1,893, and unmetalled roads from 14,139 to 14,180; the mileage of village roads fell from 8,724 to 8,579. The average cost of maintenance of these three classes of roads was Rs. 464·4, 59·5 and 20·1 per mile, respectively. Important works in the matter of interdistrict communications were carried out in Patna, Gaya, Muzaffarpur and Monghyr, while in Chota Nagpur several big schemes are in preparation. Considerable progress was made in the Patna-Gaya road on which the Patna Board spent Rs. 50,214 and the Gaya Board during the last two years a sum of Rs. 99,280. The Boards have received large subventions from Government for this project. In Muzaffarpur Rs. 28,840 and in Monghyr Rs. 18,209 was spent on interdistrict works. During the past few years the policy of the latter body has been to devote its surplus resources for communications to the improvement of minor roads and feeder minor roads. It is proposed for the next few years to devote the main portion of the allotment for original works to the execution of a complete scheme of communications for the south of that district which is at present much neglected and in parts quite inaccessible.

Several important building projects were also in preparation during the year. The important bridge over the Damodar at Punpunki in Manbhum was sanctioned and work was commenced since the end of the year. The construction of a new reinforced concrete bridge over the Phalgu to replace that which was washed away in the floods of 1917 has been under the consideration of the Gaya District Board and Government has promised a grant of 3 lakhs and a loan of 3 lakhs towards the project.

Railway feeder roads.

**204.** In the Patna Division the expenditure on Railway feeder roads was negligible. In the Tirhut Division no new feeder roads were constructed, but the expenditure incurred in maintaining feeder roads amounted to Rs. 6,964 in Saran, Rs. 6,124 in Muzaffarpur, Rs. 2,342 in Darbhanga and Rs. 250 in Champaran. The District Board of Monghyr adhered to its policy of developing feeder roads and spent Rs. 32,298, while Bhagalpur spent only Rs. 3,345. For the District Boards of Hazaribagh, Ranchi, Palamau and Manbhum the figures are Rs. 6,905, Rs. 26,689, Rs. 15,707 and Rs. 31,424. In the Orissa Division Cuttack alone (Rs. 18,028) devoted any appreciable sum to this work.

Water-supply and waterworks.

**205.** (Rs. 1,51,310.)—The drop of Rs. 14,513 in the expenditure appears to be mainly due to difficulties in getting materials and to the failure of the Local Board of Aurangabad (Gaya) to spend its allotment of Rs. 5,000 for this purpose. Increases occurred in the districts of Shahabad (Rs. 886), Champaran (Rs. 117), Muzaffarpur (Rs. 1,214), Ranchi (Rs. 2,727), Manbhum (Rs. 4,224), Cuttack (Rs. 4,970) and Balasore (Rs. 2,300) making up a total of Rs. 16,438; while the following districts showed a decrease :—

Patna (Rs. 9,130), Gaya (Rs. 6,903), Saran (Rs. 222), Darbhanga (Rs. 869), Monghyr (Rs. 3,705), Bhagalpur (Rs. 620), Purnea (Rs. 1,189), Hazaribagh (Rs. 473), Palamau (Rs. 668), Puri (Rs. 3,896), and Sambalpur (Rs. 3,256), aggregating Rs. 30,941.

Drainage.

**206.** (Rupees 21,816.)—Muzaffarpur spent Rs. 9,836 for a survey of drainage channels, drainage works, Darbhanga spent Rs. 2,676 in constructing side drains along roads. Manbhum spent Rs. 7,295 in constructing drains in Jharia and improving drains in Dhanbad and in the Panchgari Bazar. The expenditure of other Boards on this head was negligible.

Arboriculture.

**207.** (Rs. 58,503.)—The expenditure on this head was Rs. 58,503 against Rs. 52,548 in the preceding year.

Closing balance.

**208.** (Rs. 27,04,199.)—The aggregate closing balances, excluding deposits, amounted to Rs. 22,74,791 against Rs. 19,07,124 in the preceding year. The actual balances were generally far in excess of the minimum prescribed by the Commissioners of Divisions.

From their balances, the following sums have been invested in the Indian War Loan Bonds by the Boards named below :—

| | Rs. |
|---|---|
| Shahabad ... ... ... ... | 1,50,000 |
| Purnea ... ... ... ... | 1,00,000 |

**209.** Proposals to liberalize the constitution of District and Local Boards by the extension of the elective principle both in the appointment of members and of the chairman and by the reduction of the official element in the composition of the Boards were under the consideration of Government during the latter half of the year. General remarks.

A feature of the year was the utilization of the financial resources of District Boards in combating the continued rise in the price first of salt and cloth and latterly of rice. Large sums were invested in these articles and several Boards even took large short term loans from Government to enable them to finance these operations. The control of salt was in the hands of the Boards themselves but the supply of cloth and rice was arranged for them by the Controller of Cloth and Director of Civil Supplies respectively. Towards the close of the year Government placed before the Boards a proposal for the creation of a provincial sanitary service which would enable Government to place a qualified Health Officer and Assistant Health Officer at the disposal of every local body which required one and would afford one. The proposal was fairly generally accepted.

## Indian Defence Force.

**210.** The following Indian Defence Force units were in existence during the year :—

1. 1st Bihar Light Horse.
2. 39th Chota Nagpur Regiment.
3. St. Michael's School Cadet Corps.

## Marine.

[Administration Report of the Orissa Ports.]

**211.** The total receipts including contribution from Government amounted to Rs. 9,846 and the expenditure was Rs. 9,813. Finance.

**212.** As in the previous year there were no dutiable imports at any of the ports. Cuttack and Puri had no coasting trade. In Balasore the value of coasting imports increased from Rs. 17,09,043 to Rs. 24,32,593. There were no exports to foreign ports. The total value of free goods (Indian) including treasure exported from Balasore amounted to Rs. 11,17,604 against Rs. 7,85,002 in the preceding year. Trade.

**213.** The vessels entering the ports during the year numbered 85 with an aggregate tonnage of 16,688 against 82 with an aggregate tonnage of 14,428 in 1917-18. The number that left the ports was 84 with an aggregate tonnage of 16,215 against 81 with an aggregate tonnage of 14,265 in the previous year. Arrival and Departure.

**214.** The ports were inspected several times by the Port Officer, Cuttack and Balasore ports. The Port Officer of Calcutta visited them once during the year. Inspections.

**215.** The health of the ports was not generally so good as in the previous year. Balasore and Chandbali suffered for a long time from influenza and fever. Health of the Ports.

### STEAM BOILER COMMISSION.

**216.** The administration of the Bengal Steam Boiler and Prime Movers Act of 1879, in those places of Bihar and Orissa in which the Act is in force, continued to remain in the hands of the Boiler Commission under the Government of Bengal. Administration of the Act.

**217.** The number of boilers inspected was 1,522 against 1,537 in 1917-18 and the fees realized on account of the inspections amounted to Rs. 26,825 against Rs. 27,835 in the preceding year. Inspection of Boilers.

# CHAPTER IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

## Agriculture.

[The report of the Agricultural Department, Bihar and Orissa, for the year ending on the 30th June 1919.]

**Organization.**

**218.** Mr. G. C. Sherrard, Deputy Director of Agriculture, continued to be absent on military duty up to the 16th February 1919, Mr. N. S. McGowan, Professor of Agriculture of the Sabour College, was granted combined leave for one year with effect from the 1st April 1919, on medical grounds. Mr. D. R. Sethi, Deputy Director of Agriculture, was deputed to the Kapurthala State in the Punjab for a period of three years.

**Agricultural Stations.**

**219.** Owing to the stoppage of irrigation facilities the Bankipur Farm has been abandoned; the land and buildings have been leased out to a private gentleman for a dairy farm. A new site has been selected at Gaya for the headquarters farm of the Patna Circle and at Saharsa as a headquarters for North Bhagalpur. Government having finally decided that Sipaya was the most suitable site for the proposed sugarcane station in North Bihar arrangements have been made to commence work on the buildings at once. Lands have been acquired for experimental and seed farms at Purulia, Ramgarh, Balasore, Khurda and Sambalpur, and building is in progress at Purulia and Ramgarh. Arrangements are being made for opening similar farms at Nawada and Purnea.

**Agricultural Associations, Fairs and Shows.**

**220.** Owing to the agricultural distress and influenza some of the annual agricultural and industrial exhibitions were not held this year, and the congestion in railway traffic also prevented the sending of departmental exhibits to the exhibitions. In all, eight exhibitions were held, to which a sum of Rs. 2,400 was contributed by this department. Besides these exhibitions, a show of calves sired by bulls supplied by Government was held at Nawada, district Gaya. A sum of Rs. 27 was given by the Department in prizes at this show.

**Arboriculture.**

**221.** Good progress is being made in road-side tree planting by the District Boards and Road Committees in the Province. The expenditure of the local bodies on arboricultural work generally exceeded the minimum amount fixed by Government for such expenditure. The expenditure incurred by the District Boards and Road Committees on maintaining and planting out trees and nurseries amounted to Rs. 59,314. The receipts from the sale of trees, fruits, etc., amounted to Rs. 19,772.

The usual class for training overseers, sub-overseers and other subordinates of District Boards in arboriculture was held from 13th August to 12th September 1918 at the Royal Botanic Garden, Calcutta. Two overseers and five sub-overseers attended the class from this province and were favourably reported on by the Superintendent of the Garden.

**Rainfall Stations.**

**222.** The total number of rain registering stations during the year was 305 against 300 last year. Returns from these stations were received and compiled, and rainfall statistics were published monthly in the *Bihar and Orissa Gazette*. 181 stations were inspected. 224 inspection cards were received against 219 of last year.

**Education.**

**223.** At Sabour College, administrative approval of Government has been accorded to the construction of a fitter's and carpenter's workshop and office and store room.

*Two years' Course.*—The appointment of a skilled mechanic has been sanctioned with a view to the substitution of a course on farm mechanics for part of the field work on the farm. A qualified man has been selected for the post.

The certificate examination was held in March 1919. Twelve students sat for the examination, of whom nine passed, two Biharis heading the list. These two students and one Oriya were admitted to the Subordinate Agricultural Service and are now undergoing practical training.

*Short Course.*—Of the two students who joined the *bhadai* short course, 1918, one remained for the *rabi* short course.

*Training of cultivators.*—Nine students were under training at the Cuttack farm. They were trained in keeping books and accounts, and in addition to the ordinary manual labour were given opportunities of supervising and learning farm management.

**224.** Experience is in favour of extensive practical demonstration to cultivators on their own land. *Kamdars*, skilled farm labourers are, sent out to show the cultivators how to perform themselves the simple operations essential to the success of any improvement that may be recommended in any one place. This organization of *Kamdars* also lends itself to a system of recovery or purchase of seed at harvest for distribution among other cultivators. **Propaganda.**

As regards sales, the department deals as far as possible through Co-operative Societies and Banks.

**225.** In the Bhagalpur Division nearly 80 tons of Pusa No. 12 wheat was sold in 1918 and 800 lbs. of *Indrasail* paddy seed was distributed in small parcels gratis in 1919. 200 maunds of *Kakaya* Bombay Jute seed was sold and the demand far exceeded the supply. **Summary of work done.**

In the Patna Division roughly 2,700 acres is estimated to have been sown with Pusa No. 12 wheat which is thoroughly established in the Nawada subdivision of Gaya district where it commands a premium over the price of local wheat. The Agricultural Seed Supply Society, Nawada, stored some 9 tons of Pusa No. 12 wheat after the last harvest. *Indrasail* paddy was largely distributed, but is somewhat late for the greater part of the land in this division, and in Tirhut suffered from the short monsoon, except in low lands.

In Orissa large quantities of Mungo sugarcane setts and groundnut seeds were supplied to cultivators. It is estimated that the acreage of Mungo sugarcane in Cuttack now exceeds 600 acres and the crop is being introduced rapidly in Puri district. Of groundnut 330 acres have been sown in Cuttack and Puri districts to the knowledge of the Department.

In Chota Nagpur small quantities of seed of Cawnpur-American cotton No. 9 were distributed to selected growers.

*Dhaincha* as a green-manure has met with some success in Patna and Orissa Divisions.

**226.** The scheme of reorganization of the Department contemplates the division of the province into seven more or less homogeneous areas with a headquarters farm centrally placed from the point of view of communication in each area; on which farm the main problems common to the whole area, will be studied. Smaller farms will be established in tracts presenting typical conditions peculiar to these smaller areas. **Research and experiment.**

The chemical survey of South Bhagalpur soils is well advanced and a survey of these in the Kosi area in Purnea has commenced.

The segregation of homogeneous types of paddy and single plant selection, the planting of sugarcane selections at Sipaya, Ranchi and Cuttack, have continued.

At Ranchi, the selected strains of Cawnpur American cotton have done very well on good land. No. 9, the lint of which grown at Cawnpur in 1917 was valued as high as the best 'Broach', gave 198 lbs. of lint per acre on the Ranchi Farm in 1918, while No. 5, the lint of which is considerably poorer, gave 227 lbs. per acre.

Experiments on the cultivation of groundnuts and soybeans continued.

## Fisheries.

**227.** The work of this Department which this Province shares with Bengal, is still very much in the experimental stage, and there are indications that more concentration is needed on the practical and the business side of its functions. Experiments in hilsa hatching and carp culture have again proved a failure. Four Co-operative Societies for fishermen have been started in Puri; but this was mainly owing to the efforts of the Co-operative Department.

## Veterinary Department.

[Report of the Civil Veterinary Department in Bihar and Orissa for 1918-19.]

Veterinary Instruction.

**228.** The number of students from Bihar and Orissa admitted to the Bengal Veterinary College for training was eighteen, the figures for three preceding years being sixteen, seventeen and twenty-seven. It is disappointing to find that neither the number nor the quality of these students shows any sign of improvement and that one Government stipend could not be allotted for want of a suitable candidate.

Cattle disease.

**229.** Three thousand seven hundred and sixty-four outbreaks of contagious diseases were reported, against 4,923, and 4,513 respectively, during the years 1917-18 and 1916-17; there was thus a decrease of 1,159 outbreaks, as compared with the figures for last year. The year may therefore be considered a healthy one, on the whole, in most districts. Those, which showed exceptional mortality, were Gaya, Hazaribagh, Palamau, Sambalpur and Cuttack, where Rinderpest was prevalent and caused considerable losses. Altogether 88,339 animals are reported to have been affected with, and 25,658 to have died from, all diseases against 118,994 attacked and 21,754 deaths during the previous year. The decrease in the number of seizures is due to absence of outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease of a widespread nature. Although twelve new graduates were added to the strength of the Department during the year, there was actually no appreciable increase in the subordinate staff as many assistants were on leave and their places could not be filled for want of a leave reserve. Fever and influenza were responsible for much ill-health, but in spite of these drawbacks 2,427 outbreaks were attended by the Veterinary Assistants as compared with 2,397 during the year 1917-18.

Dispensaries.

**230.** Progress in the construction of hospitals was necessarily suspended during the war, but several local bodies have expressed their intention of constructing new hospitals in the near future. Government are prepared, as far as the financial situation permits, to assist local bodies for this purpose.

Breeding Operations.

**231.** The Government Cattle-breeding farm at Sipaya continues to do useful work, twenty-seven bulls having been distributed during the year.

## Co-operative Societies.

[Report on the working of the Co-operative Societies in Bihar and Orissa for the year ending the 31st May 1919.]

General progress.

**232.** The table below summarizes the progress of Societies of all kinds made during the year ending on the 31st May 1919.

## SUMMARY OF GENERAL PROGRESS.

The following table gives a general summary of progress :—

| Year. | Societies. | | | Total. | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Central. | Non-Agricultural. | Agricultural. | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| | | *Number of Societies.* | | | |
| 1917-18 ... ... | 21 | 64 | 1,616 | 1,701 | |
| 1918-19 ... ... | 31 | 94 | 2,044 | 2,169 | |
| | +10 | +30 | +428 | +468 | |
| | | *Membership.* | | | |
| 1917-18 ... ... | 2,511 | 11,582 | 60,778 | 74,871 | |
| 1918-19 ... ... | 3,742 | 13,469 | 65,818 | 83,029 | |
| | +1,231 | +1,887 | +5,040 | +8,158 | |
| | | *Working Capital.* | | | |
| 1917-18 ... ... | Rs. 21,44,436 | Rs. 3,34,783 | Rs. 29,81,629 | Rs. 54,60,848 | |
| 1918-19 ... ... | 26,42,036 | 4,68,573 | 34,27,905 | 64,92,261 | |
| | +4,97,600 | +1,33,790 | +4,46,276 | +10,31,413 | |

The aggregate working capital showed an increase of nearly 10 lakhs and a half against 14 lakhs in the preceding year and the total number of members of Societies of all descriptions rose from 74,915 to 83,029.

**233.** The total working capital increased from Rs. 6,48,689 to Rs. 6,95,315 and the aggregate investments on loan and cash credit account, amounted to Rs. 4,78,304. There was a falling off in the Bank's investments by Rs. 3,091. This was due to the fact that the Central Banks were given permission to take deposits from outside their jurisdiction. The Bank has met the demands of all its constituents and has made a profit of Rs. 23,646. It has paid a dividend of 6 per cent to both guarantee and preference shareholders and has carried Rs. 8,851 to Reserve Fund, which now stands at Rs. 25,000. **Provincial Banks.**

The least satisfactory feature of its working is the small amount of investments from the outside public, particularly from Biharis.

**234.** The number of Central Societies was 31. The working capital of Central Banks increased from Rs. 21,44,436 to Rs. 26,42,036 and the number of affiliated Societies from 1,489 to 1,943 ; paid up share capital aggregated Rs. 3,71,287 and their Reserve Rs. 87,974. **Central Banks.**

**235.** All Banks except one have declared dividends. The method of supervision mainly by inspecting clerks has not been altogether satisfactory. But until Societies have reached the stage when their members can do their own inspection through the medium of guarantee unions, the compromise represented by the inspecting clerk is inevitable. There has been a satisfactory increase in the number of guarantee unions from 21 to 42. These unions **Guarantee Unions.**

are intended to provide a means of supervision which not only represents real co-operation but is at the same time more efficient, being carried out by persons with local knowledge and sympathies.

Agricultural Societies.

**236.** The number of agricultural Societies increased from 1,616 to 2,044. Of these 1,943 were affiliated to Central Banks leaving only 101 Societies controlled by private workers. The number of members and total working capital rose from 60,778 and Rs. 29,81,629 to 65,818 and Rs. 34,27,905 respectively, while the Reserve fund increased from Rs. 3,78,844 to Rs. 4,43,716. The total demand during the year was Rs. 17,22,945, out of this Rs. 9,01,279 was collected which works up to 52 per cent, the same as last year. Considering the abnormal agricultural conditions prevalent during the year, the collection was satisfactory. The internal conditions of the Societies are also showing unmistakable signs of improvement. The improvement has been most marked in areas where guarantee unions have been established and trained.

Non-Agricultural Societies.

**237.** The total number of non-agricultural Societies increased from 64 to 94 and the total number of members and the working capital rose from 11,582 and Rs. 3,34,783 to 13,469 and Rs. 4,68,573 respectively. The number of Societies formed by Government servants has increased from 21 to 25. The introduction of the system of compulsory quarterly audit has had beneficial results on the financial stability of these Societies. The Secretariat Co-operative Banking Society and Laheria-Sarai Amla Society have been particularly successful.

There has been a marked demand this year for Societies which deal in stores and the number has increased from 6 to 12. Weavers Societies have increased from 14 last year to 19. The Ranchi Weavers Stores did particularly useful work. The Bettiah Catholic People's Bank is a new type started during the year. The Society obtained deposits amounting to Rs. 18,536 from the members.

Co-operation, Agriculture and Education.

**238.** The distribution of Pusa wheat, groundnuts and *Kakaya* Bombay jute through Central Banks continued. The Educational Department have requested District Boards to give grants in-aid to Central Banks to encourage primary schools. Progress in this direction has so far been slow. But several Banks have taken charge of schools and it is hoped that next year will show considerable development.

Conference.

**239.** There was no Provincial Conference this year; there was a Manager's Conference in April 1919 and several important matters regarding the management of Societies were discussed.

Audit Federation.

**240.** The initiation of the Co-operative Federation for audit and other purposes marks an important stage in the growth of the Co-operative movement. Societies, by means of the Federation to which they contribute, will henceforward bear a considerable part of the costs of audit and will no longer depend entirely on grants from Government.

## Weather and Crops.

[Season and Crop Reports of Bihar and Orissa, 1918-19. Crop Forecasts of Bihar and Orissa, 1918-19. Area and Yield of certain principal crops in India, 1918-19.]

Character of the seasons.

**241.** The rainfall before the monsoon break was defective. The insufficient rain for the preparation of the land in the first five months of the year greatly reduced the area normally sown broadcast before the monsoon in Chota Nagpur. Insufficient rain in July up to the first week of August delayed paddy transplantation seriously in parts of Bihar and Chota Nagpur. In September again the rainfall was mostly defective and was moreover confined to the first half of the month. There was no rain except light, insufficient and scattered showers from the middle of September till January when good rain was received all over the Province. The year was not good for the *bhadai* and very unfavourable for the winter rice crops owing to excessive rain in June, deficient rain in July, and entire cessation of rain from the middle of September. The drought which continued till January seriously retarded sowings and growth of the *rabi* crops. The

rainfall in January greatly benefited the majority of *rabi* crops but it was too late for oilseeds. The outturn of the *bhadai* crops for the Province as a whole was estimated at 75 per cent, of winter rice at 60 per cent, of oilseeds at 75 per cent, of wheat at 85 per cent, and of other *rabi* crops at 90 per cent of the normal.

The table below shows the estimated area and outturn in 1918-19 of *bhadai*, winter and *rabi* crops in comparison with the revised estimates of the previous year and of a normal year. The decrease in the total cropped area as compared with the preceding year is due partly to revision of figures in Palamau on the basis of the recent settlement figures and partly to unfavourable weather conditions :—

| Name of harvest. | Normal area in acres. | Area in acres cultivated during 1917-18. | Area in acres cultivated during 1918-19. | Taking 100 to represent the normal outturn how much represented the outturn for the year — | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | 1917-18 | 1918-19 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| *Bhadai* ... ... ... | 9,165,800 | 8,808,500 | 8,694,600 | 100 | 75 |
| Winter ... Winter rice .... | 11,274,700 | 11,965,800 | 11,180,200 | 115 | 60 |
| Winter ... Sugarcane and other crops. | 629,300 | 522,800 | 503,700 | 100 | 90 |
| *Rabi* ... ... ... | 11,566,800 | 10,390,100 | 8,737,800 | 95 | 87 |
| Total ... | 32,636,600 | 31,687,200 | 29,115,300 | 104 | 73 |

**242.** The total area cultivated during 1918-19 with different kinds of *bhadai* crops was estimated at 8,694,600 acres against 8,808,500 acres in the preceding year. The weather conditions were unfavourable for the majority of *bhadai* crops. Excessive rain in June, deficient rainfall in July and the entire cessation of rain from the middle of September seriously affected the outturn of the crops in many districts. Floods also caused damage in Patna, Darbhanga, Purnea and Cuttack. The outturn of the *bhadai* crops for the Province as a whole was estimated at 75 per cent of the normal against 100 per cent in the preceding year. The total area under *bhadai* food-crops was estimated at 8,327,300 acres compared with 8,344,500 acres of the preceding year and a normal area of 8,631,500 acres. *Bhadai* Crops.

**243.** In March the rainfall was below the normal in all jute-growing districts. In April, May and June it was above the normal everywhere except in Balasore, where it was in slight defect during April and June. In July the rainfall was below the normal in all jute districts except Muzaffarpur. In August it was above the normal in Muzaffarpur, Bhagalpur, Purnea and the Santal Parganas and below the normal in the remaining three districts. In the important districts of Purnea and Cuttack the rain in June was excessive. The area under jute in the Province was 151,000 acres against 223,300 acres, the area of the previous year. The outturn of the crop for the Province was estimated at 75 per cent as against 100 per cent last year. The gross yield of the crop for the Province was 340,500 bales as against 669,800 bales of last year. Jute.

**244.** Indigo is cultivated in eight districts of Bihar, chiefly in the Tirhut Division. In the important districts of North Bihar there was a reduction in area, which was due to agrarian trouble and also to the fall in the price Indigo.

of indigo last year. Owing to excessive rainfall during the manufacturing period, the crop gave a poor outturn. The crop from the second cuttings was practically a failure. According to the estimates of District Officers the area sowed was 64,200 acres against 86,700 acres of the previous year and the total yield of the crop worked out to 9,395 factory maunds (701,500 lbs.) against 15,318 factory maunds (1,143,800 lbs.) in the previous year.

*Aghani* Crops.

**245.** *Winter rice.*—The abrupt close of the monsoon in mid-September following on earlier irregularities gravely prejudiced the rice crop which was planted late, and which therefore had to depend entirely on good late rain. The outturn was severely reduced on high lands and unirrigated areas throughout the Province especially in the Patna and Chota Nagpur Divisions and in the portion of the Bhagalpur Division lying south of the Ganges. The light rainfall received at the end of October did very little good to the crops except in Puri and north of the Ganges in a belt near the frontier. The area sown with winter rice in 1918-19 amounted to 11,180,200 acres against 11,965,800 acres of the previous year and a normal area of 11,274,700 acres. The outturn of the crop for the Province was 60 per cent of the normal as against 115 per cent estimated in the previous year.

Sugarcane.

**246.** Sugarcane is cultivated chiefly in Bihar. Outside Bihar the crop is important in Manbhum and Hazaribagh. The weather conditions were favourable in the early part of the season but want of rain after the middle of September affected the crop in several districts. The crop was, however, generally fair. According to the estimates of the District Officers the area under the crop was 274,800 acres against 262,700 acres of the previous year. The outturn of the crop for the Province as a whole was estimated at 90 per cent as against 100 per cent for the previous year.

*Rabi* Crops.

**247.** Bihar is the chief *rabi*-growing tract, but *rabi* crops are also important in Cuttack and some districts of Chota Nagpur. Sowings of the crops began generally at the normal time but were curtailed in most districts for want of sufficient moisture in the soil owing to the failure of the *hathiya* rains. The crops were also affected by the drought in the beginning of the season but the rainfall in January, though late for oilseeds, was of great benefit to other *rabi* crops especially wheat, and prospects improved considerably. The total area under all kinds of *rabi* crops was estimated at 8,737,800 acres against 10,390,100 acres of last year. The total normal area under these crops is 11,566,800 acres. The total area of various *rabi* food-crops including wheat amounted to 6,702,100 acres against 8,168,100 acres of the preceding year. The area sown with different *rabi* non-food-crops was 2,035,700 acres against 2,222,000 acres, the estimate of the previous year. The outturn of the wheat crop was estimated at 85 per cent, of oilseeds at 75 per cent and of other *rabi* crops at 90 per cent of the normal.

Cotton.

**248.** The crop is of small acreage and only of local importance. The early crop is mostly grown in Ranchi and the Santal Parganas. The less important districts are Angul, Sambalpur and Manbhum. The weather conditions were generally favourable in the early part of the season but the rainfall was not well distributed. The late variety is chiefly cultivated in North Bihar, Manbhum and Singhbhum. The rainfall in the latter part of the season was insufficient for the late crop in all districts south of the Ganges. The area under the early and late varieties of the cotton crop in the Province was 78,400 acres against 69,300 acres of the previous year and the outturn of the cotton crops, both early and late, for the Province as a whole, including the Native States, was estimated at 17,794 bales against 17,574 bales of last year.

## Forests.

[The Annual Progress Report on Forest Administration in the Province of Bihar and Orissa for the year 1918-19.]

Staff.

**249.** The staff of the department, already depleted by the exigencies of the war, has been seriously hampered during the year by sickness. Though the reorganization scheme resulting in a strengthening of the Cadre of the Imperial Service by five and of the Provincial Service by three additional posts has been sanctioned during the year it will be some time before trained officers will be available to put the scheme into full effect.

**250.** The area under reserve remained practically unchanged at 1,747 square miles, while the area of protected forests rose from 2,038 square miles to 2,054, of which 1,089 square miles are under the administration of the Forest Department. The demarcations of the protected forests in the Angul, Puri and the Chaibassa divisions were continued during the year. **Area.**

**251.** The total expenditure on roads and buildings constructed and repaired during the year rose from Rs. 77,905 to Rs. 82,469. The new works comprised 62 miles of cart roads and the completion of the quarters of the District Forest Officer at Chaibassa. **Communications and Buildings.**

The total number of forest offences increased by 40 and the percentage of convictions fell from 91 to 87 per cent. Punishments appear to have been adequate.

**252.** Protective measures against fire were taken in an additional 5,236 acres in protected forests. The area of reserves under fire protection was decreased by 5,348 acres as an experiment. The percentage of success rose from 93·3 to 99·2; the number of outbreaks rose from 70 to 73 but the area burnt fell from 78,000 to 30,000 odd acres. **Losses by fire.**

**253.** A profit was shown in all divisions excepting Palamau and Angul. The total revenue increased from Rs. 7,98,724 to Rs. 9,31,061 and was balanced by an increase of less than Rs. 33,000 in expenditure. This total revenue compares most favourably with the quinquennial average of Rs. 5,94,174. The improvement is largely due to the requirements for timber for munitions purposes and the cessation of the munition contracts will lead to a considerable shrinking from now on onwards. **Financial results.**

The surplus of the year amounted to Rs. 4,97,833 or 53·46 per cent, the gross revenue realized and exceeded the previous year and the average of the preceding five years by Rs. 99,656 and Rs. 2,95,692 respectively.

**254.** Progress was made in protecting private forests from denudation especially in the Chota Nagpur Division. Land acquisition proceedings were initiated for the Rajadera portion of the Banspahar forest. A scheme is progressing for the acquisition of the Katabil area of the same forest; and 19 encumbered and wards estates managers and one private proprietor have applied under section 38, of the Forest Act, for protection. A proposal is also under consideration for preserving the forests on the hill slopes of the catchment area of the Damodar river in Hazaribagh. **Conservation of Private Forests.**

**255.** The Casuarina plantation has progressed in Puri satisfactorily. An additional area of 600 odd acres has been acquired, and a proposal is under consideration for the acquisition of some 1,200 further acres. These Casuarina plantations will, it is hoped, help to supply fuel to the pilgrims and residents of Puri, will arrest the drifting of sand and thus protect the cultivated area inland, and will protect the catchment area of Puri water-supply from contamination. **Artificial and Natural Reproduction.**

**256.** Mr. Haines, Conservator of Forests, on leave, has progressed with his comprehensive survey of the Flora of the Province and a portion of his book will, it is understood, be published shortly **General.**

## Manufactures and Mines.

[Statistics of British India, Part I, Industrial.]

**257.** The area under jute was estimated at 151,000 acres against 223,300 acres in the previous year. The gross outturn was in round figures 340,500 bales against 669,800 bales of the previous year. **Jute.**

**258.** The area under indigo was 64,200 acres against 86,700 acres in the previous year. The gross outturn was 9,395 factory maunds against 15,318 factory maunds in 1917-18. **Indigo.**

**259.** The area under tea in 1918 was in the 21 gardens of the Ranchi District 2,088 acres and 90 acres in the single garden of Hazaribagh district. The outturn of tea, black and green, in 1918 was 323,864 lbs. against 309,208 lbs. in 1917. **Tea.**

Sugar.

**260.** The total outturn of sugar produced by the sugar refineries in the Tirhut Division and in Shahabad, Monghyr and Bhagalpur was reported to be 491,803 maunds against 557,985 maunds, the revised figure of the previous year. The sugar refineries worked generally well and prices obtained were profitable ; but shortage of coal was felt in some factories in 1918.

A considerable quantity of cane grown in this Province find its way to the Pertabpur and Bhabnauli concerns in Gorakhpur, United Provinces, the sugar produce of which is reported in the statistics of the United Provinces. The Bhabnauli concern took 145,440 maunds of cane from Saran and Champaran.

Coal.

**261.** 451 coal mines were worked in the Province against 444 in the previous year and the total output of coal rose from 11,931,141 tons to 13,675,616 tons amounting to nearly $\frac{7}{10}$ths of the total output of India. The greater part of the coal was mined in the district of Manbhum where 410 mines yielded 11,818,755 tons. The daily average number of persons employed in mines rose from 105,910 to 118,650. The total number of fatal accidents reported during the year was 94 against 72 in the preceding year, while the total number of deaths was 104 against 83.

In the last year's report attention was drawn to the appointment, late in the year, of a Coal Controller and it was stated that his methods of regulating matters did not affect the period under report. In 1918, however, practically the whole of the trade was under his control. All coal except that of markedly inferior quality, was requisitioned at prices fixed by the Controller on the basis of cost of production *plus* a certain profit and practically every consumer in India received his coal from the Controller. The output of collieries working the poorer class coals, was restricted in order to make labour available for the larger and better class mines.

Iron-ore.

**262.** Two mines were worked during the year in Singhbhum and yielded 115,085 tons of the ore or 63,217 tons less than in the previous year. The daily average of labourers employed fell from 1,576 to 1,087.

Mica.

**263.** The number of mines worked during the year was 510 against 512 in the previous year and the total output rose from 29,191 cwts. to 44,220 cwts. This represents about $\frac{1}{13}$ths of the total output of India. The daily average number of persons employed rose from 16,252 to 21,364.

Copper-ore.

**264.** Only one copper ore mine at Singhbhum was worked yielding 3,619 tons against 20,108 in 1917. The decrease in the output is reported to be temporary. The mine gave employment to a daily average of 1,314 persons against 1,672 in the preceding year.

## Miscellaneous Manufactures and Industries in each Division.

[Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Province of Bihar and Orissa for the year 1918-19.]

Patna Division.

**265.** The Weavers' Co-operative Societies established at Patna helped much to improve the local weaving industry. The working of the oil and flour mills in Patna was affected by want of coal and iron. The mica industry in Gaya had a very prosperous year. In Shahabad the limestone quarries had an increased output. The *tasar* industry at Kadriganj in Gaya and the bootmaking, pottery, stone-cutting, flourmaking and oil-pressing continued to prosper. Large quantities of raw sugar were exported from the Jahanabad Subdivision in Gaya.

Tirhut Division.

**266.** Indigo, sugar and tobacco are the principal industries of the division. The sugar industry had however a very prosperous year. In Champaran the area under cultivation rose from 18,500 acres in 1917-18 to 20,700. The tobacco industry in Darbhanga had another good year. The manufacture of silk at Barwat, the net-bag making and *durri*, *dhoti*, *sari* and *jharan*, weaving industry at Chauterwa continued to thrive under the supervision of the Superintendent, Salvation Army. The export of

*sabai* grass and timber from the north of the Bettiah Subdivision continued. Messrs. H. Dear and Company retained their timber concessions from the Ramnagar estate and the work continued on the usual lines. The new factory for making mother-of-pearl buttons and chains for watches, started last year by Babu Lalit Prashad Sahu, a banker of the Motihari town, is at a standstill for want of mother-of-pearl. Hand looms for weaving country cloths were started in the Motihari town and are working satisfactorily.

**267.** The Cigarette Factory of the Peninsular American Tobacco Company at Monghyr is the largest and most important factory in the division. It turned out a very large number of cigarettes at a reduced profit owing to the high prices of materials. The slate quarries of Messrs. Ambler and Company, Limited, continued to flourish. The mica mines at Maheshri and the railway workshop at Jamalpur worked at high pressure for war purposes. Country loom weaving in Monghyr and Bhagalpur was hampered by high prices of cotton and brick-making in the former district by want of coal. The two oil mills in Monghyr suffered from the restriction of goods traffic. In Bhagalpur the old *bafta* and *tasar* industry continued and the local dying, etc., revived in some parts of the district. The manufacture of country cigarettes called *biri* continued at Jhajha. The lac factories in Pakour and Dumka and the *sabai* godowns and the oil mills of Sahibganj provided employment for a large number of labourers. The weavers of Borio and Burhait in the Rajmahal Damin continued their manufactures of towels, bed sheets, *saris*, etc., by means of hand looms and the industry is flourishing. **Bhagalpur Division.**

**268.** The red oxide mine at Bhubaneshwar received a temporary impetus owing to its great demand by the Railway and Military Departments. The shortage of railway wagons had affected adversely the cocoanut trade in 1917-18. This year it had a more prosperous year. The Hingir-Rampur Coal Company extracted 51,033 tons of coal valued at Rs. 1,75,450. Mr. Casey's sisal hemp plantation worked well and is in a flourishing condition. The high price of imported cloth gave an impetus to the extension of cotton cultivation and revived the local weaving industry. Silver filigree work and horn work were carried on in the town of Cuttack. The Utkal Tannery at Cuttack continued to turn out boots, shoes and other leather articles which found ready sale in Calcutta and elsewhere. Another Tannery has been started in the town by a local Muhammadan gentleman. In Sambalpur the progress of the *tasar* weaving industry was much affected by an enormous increase in the price of cocoons. The Salvation Army continued their work among the Pans in the three villages of Angul made over to them. **Orissa Division.**

**269.** The chief industrial development of the Province centres in Chota Nagpur, where there was a continued expansion of the many mining companies engaged in the extraction of the rich mineral deposits and ores of Hazaribagh, Singhbhum and Manbhum. In the Hazaribagh district there was a large increase in the output of coal increasing from 485,110 to 1,569,732 tons. A number of small collieries were started. In addition to the joint East Indian Railway and Bengal-Nagpur Railway collieries at Bermo and Great Indian Peninsula collieries at Kargali, Messrs. Bird and Company are opening out the south Karanpura field and the survey of the extension of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway from Bermo to Karanpura is in progress. **Chota Nagpur Division.**

The mica mines in Hazaribagh district increased their output from 22,289 to 28,770; the demand, however, declined with the cessation of hostilities.

In Manbhum the Jharia coal-fields were exceptionally prosperous, there were 408 working, nine more than the previous year. The total output increased from 10,287,909 of the previous year to 11,770,899 tons in 1918 and in value from Rs. 3,26,33,356 to Rs. 4,96,46,836 and the number of persons employed from 88,687 to 119,579. There were numerus applications for prospecting and mining licenses in the district of Singhbhum where there are large and valuable iron, manganese and copper-ore deposits and in lesser quantity gold, wolfram, chromite, lead ores, yellow and red ochre, phosphoretic rock, phosphate of lime, limestone, asbestos, mica, soap-stone and slate.

Messrs. Tata's works although their profits fell from one crore 11 lakhs to one crore 5½ lakhs continued to expand. The extension of their works at Jamshedpur was actively prosecuted. They have obtained a prospecting license for limestone over an area of 33⅓ square miles near Chaibassa. Negotiations were undertaken for extension of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway to tap the new iron fields. The Bengal Iron and Steel Company, Limited, extracted 21,772 tons of iron-ore and railed 89,904 tons to their Barakar Iron Works at Kulti, East Indian Railway, for treatment. A new mine was opened near the Ankua village in Saranda Pir, and a branch light railway 3 miles long has been built to serve it. The Indian Iron and Steel Company obtained two mining leases and several prospecting licenses in the Kolhan and are making arrangements to start mining works there. Owing to shortage of coal and shipping difficulties, the operations of the Cape Copper Company at the Rakha mines were hampered. The output of gold realized from the operations of the Dhalbhum Gold and Minerals Prospecting Company, Limited, Kunderkocha, amounted to 1,587,301 ozs. valued at Rs. 1,15,764. The Singhbhum Chromite Company and Mr. Luxman Rao Naidu extracted 1,211 tons of chromite valued at Rs. 27,690. The Kalimati Wolfram Mine realized about 2 tons of wolfram. 4,752 tons of limestone were obtained from the Lotapahar quarries by the Sutna Stone and Lime Company and the Great Indian Phosphate Company extracted 5,100 tons of phosphatic rock valued at Rs. 51,000.

The Lac trade in Hazaribagh and Chatra continued to be brisk but many smaller factories in Manbhum had to close down for want of material and the larger ones did very little work although raw lac was obtained from the Central Provinces and from Assam.

## Working of the Indian Factories Act,

[Report on the working of the Indian Factories Act, Bengal, Bihar and Orissa and Assam for the year 1918.]

Number of factories and system of work.

**270.** The total number of factories working in the Province during the year 1918 was 62 against 60 in the preceding year. The daily average number of persons employed was 43,471 of whom 42,030 were adults against 39,688 and 38,580 of the preceding year. In 18 factories work was carried on under a system of midday stoppage, in one under a system of shifts and in 32 under other arrangements. The remaining 11 factories were exempted under Part C of Schedule I of the Act. The Sunday holiday was observed in 28 factories, Sunday or a substituted day in 13 factories, 16 factories were worked under other arrangements and the remaining 5 factories were exempted under part B of Schedule II and section 22 (4)(*d*) of the Act.

Inspections.

**271.** Only two factories were inspected by the whole-time inspectors during the year. The remaining 60 factories could not be inspected because the Inspectors were largely engaged on special work connected with munitions. The District Magistrates of Darbhanga, Monghyr, Gaya and Saran and the Deputy Commissioners of Manbhum and Singhbhum made inspections of factories in their respective districts.

General health of operatives.

**272.** The general health of the operatives was on the whole fair.

Wages and general condition of operatives.

**273.** The average weekly rates of wages of the different classes of skilled and unskilled labourers were as follows :—

| | | Rs. | Rs. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Preparers | Men | 2-12 | to 4-6 |
| | Women | 1-14 | „ 2-10 |
| Shifters | Adults | 2-3 | „ 3-4 |
| | Half-timers | 1-6 | „ 1-13 |
| Piece-workers | Men | 4-15 | „ 6-10 |
| | Women | 3-0 | „ 5-8 |

| | | Rs. | Rs. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mistries ... | Fitters ... ... ... | 4-15 to 8-13 | |
| | Blacksmiths... ... ... | 5-8 „ 11-0 | |
| | Carpenters ... ... ... | 6-0 „ 11-0 | |
| | Masons ... ... ... | 3-14 „ 7-2 | |
| Coolies ... | ... ... ... ... | 2-7 „ 3-4 | |

The general condition of operatives in factories was satisfactory.

**274.** The daily average number of women employed was 5,923 and that of children 1,441 against 4,433 and 1,108 in the preceding year. **Employment of women and children.**

**275.** Inspectors have endeavoured to have the standard of efficiency maintained, but owing to the curtailment of the regular inspection work, and the much higher cost and difficulty in obtaining material for other than actual maintenance little additional fencing was erected during the year. **Fencing of machinery.**

**276.** The number of accidents reported was 899 against 703 in the previous year, of these 23 were fatal, 181 serious, and 695 minor, against 1,189 and 603 respectively in 1917. There was a marked increase in the number of accidents in the Tata Iron and Steel Works which is attributed partly to the substantial increase in the number of persons employed and partly to the fact that the additional labour which was mostly unskilled was largely employed on dangerous constructional work. This matter is receiving special attention. **Accidents.**

**277.** There were no prosecutions under the Act. **Prosecutions.**

## Trade.

[Statistics of British India, Part III, Commercial.]

### I.—FOREIGN SEA-BORNE TRADE.

**278.** No foreign trade was carried on during the year. **Foreign trade.**

### II.—COASTING TRADE.

**279.** The coasting trade, which was confined to the port of Balasore, recovered to some extent, owing principally to increased imports of building materials, chemicals, grains, metal, spices, cotton, twist, gunny-bags, etc., and exports of dried fish, brass metal, ghee, chillies, jute, tobacco, etc. Its value is shown below :— **Coasting trade.**

| | | 1917-18 Rs. | 1918-19 Rs. |
|---|---|---|---|
| *Imports.* | | | |
| Merchandise ... | Indian ... ... | 11,52,371 | 15,76,663 |
| | Foreign... ... | 5,56,672 | 8,55,930 |
| | Total ... | 17,09,043 | 24,32,593 |
| Treasure ... ... ... ... | | Nil | Nil |
| *Exports.* | | | |
| Merchandise ... ... | Indian ... ... | 7,52,302 | 10,67,104 |
| | Foreign ... | Nil | Nil |
| | Total ... | 7,52,302 | 10,67,104 |
| Treasure ... ... | ... | 32,700 | 50,500 |

## III.—FRONTIER TRADE.

Frontier trade.

**280.** The value of the trans-frontier trade of Bihar and Orissa with Nepal rose from Rs. 370·4 lakhs in 1917-18 to Rs. 471·4 lakhs. There has been an apparent balance of trade in favour of Nepal amounting to Rs. 90 lakhs a year on the average of the last three years. The chief features of the year were the increased volume and price of the imports of food-stuffs into the Province and the continued increase of price and decrease of volume of exports of cotton goods, the net result being an increase of over 27 per cent in the combined value of imports and exports. The effect of the early cessation of the monsoon of 1918, and of the war on the two principal articles of commerce on either side make the figures quite abnormal and renders speculation on developments unprofitable. The total value of the trade does not include treasure, the registration of which continues to be defective.

Imports.

**281.** The aggregate value of imports rose from Rs. 214·0 lakhs to Rs. 294·0 lakhs. The chief articles of imports from Nepal are food-stuffs, live animals and raw materials. Rice imported was valued at an amount representing 50·2 per cent of the total value of the imports and its quantity was 4,119,042 maunds against 3,540,062 maunds in the previous year. Of the oil-seeds imported from Nepal, mustard, rape and linseed continued to be the most important. The imports of jute (raw) from Nepal were 344,065 maunds valued at Rs. 25·8 lakhs against 269,775 maunds valued at Rs. 20·8 lakhs. The import of ghee increased by about 43·3 per cent in quantity and 49·0 per cent. in value. The import of tobacco decreased by 16·7 per cent in volume and 30·4 per cent in value. The trade in hides and skins also decreased by 37·6 per cent in value.

Exports.

**282.** The export trade increased by about 21 lakhs. Manufactured articles, chiefly cotton piece-goods, two-thirds of which are of foreign origin, constitute the bulk of the exports from Bihar and Orissa. The export of these articles continued to decline and dropped in volume from 72,154 maunds to 58,712 maunds but the value rose by 25·9 per cent. The export of metals and manufactures thereof showed an increase of 1·08 per cent in volume and 31·2 per cent in value. The export of salt increased in volume by 12·2 per cent. Other exports of importance are spices, oils, sugar, tobacco, animals (living) and provisions. The export of provisions increased by 42·4 per cent in volume and 94·5 per cent in value.

## IV.—TRADE BY RAIL AND RIVER.

Division and value of trade.

**283.** The main division of this trade (exclusive of animals and treasures) and its estimated value are exhibited in the following table :—

| Year. | Imports into Bihar and Orissa from other provinces including Calcutta. | Exports from Bihar and Orissa to other provinces including Calcutta. | Imports into Bihar and Orissa from Calcutta. | Exports from Bihar and Orissa to Calcutta. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | Mds. | Mds. | Mds. | Mds. |
| 1917-18 ... | 25,378,101 | 293,960,121 | 5,601,397 | 60,155,414 |
| | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. |
| | 27,85,30,135 | 55,79,73,812 | 14,10,46,119 | 12,07,73,755 |
| | Mds. | Mds. | Mds. | Mds. |
| 1918-19 ... | 32,375,544 | 274,226,656 | 6,077,761 | 65,983,230 |
| | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. |
| | 31,03,78,239 | 57,79,48,036 | 15,17,14,343 | 17,46,62,252 |

The import trade increased about 27·5 per cent in volume and 11·4 per cent in value of the total value of Rs. 31·0 crores of the imports into Bihar and Orissa, some 48·8 per cent was contributed by the Calcutta Trade Block, 24·9 per cent by Bengal excluding Calcutta, 9·4 per cent by the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, 5·7 per cent by Bombay including the port, 3·3 per cent by the Punjab and the remaining 7·8 per cent by other provinces.

The export trade fell about 6·7 per cent in volume but the value increased by 3·6 per cent of the total exports valued at Rs. 57·8 crores, some 30·2 per cent went to Calcutta, 30·9 per cent to Bengal excluding Calcutta, 13·8 per cent to the United Provinces, 8·8 per cent to Bombay including the port, 5·3 per cent to the Punjab, 3·4 per cent to Madras including the ports, 2·5 per cent to the Central Provinces and the remaining 5·0 per cent to other provinces.

**284.** The principal articles of import from Bengal including Calcutta were cotton manufactures (Rs. 733·5 lakhs), metals and manufactures thereof (Rs. 336·7 lakhs), railway plant and rolling stock (Rs. 178·2 lakhs), grain and pulse (Rs. 241·9 lakhs), sugar (Rs. 76·9 lakhs), oils (Rs. 138·7 lakhs) and salt (Rs. 64·3 lakhs); from the United Provinces, cotton manufactures (Rs. 60·0 lakhs), metals and manufactures thereof (Rs. 20·1 lakhs), railway plant and rolling stock (Rs. 30·0 lakhs), grain and pulses (Rs. 26·4 lakhs); from the Central Provinces and Berar, metals and manufactures thereof (Rs. 16·4 lakhs), cotton manufactures (Rs. 35·1 lakhs); from the Punjab, salt (Rs. 63·9 lakhs); from Bombay including the port, cotton manufactures (Rs. 168·8 lakhs), and from Madras, salt (Rs. 24·0 lakhs). **Imports.**

**285.** The principal articles of export from Bihar and Orissa to Bengal including Calcutta were coal and coke (Rs. 351·3 lakhs), railway plant and rolling stock (Rs. 1,262·7 lakhs), metals and manufactures thereof (Rs. 345·5 lakhs) grain and pulses (Rs. 271·1 lakhs), sugar (Rs. 26·6 lakhs), tobacco (Rs. 81·7 lakhs), jute (Rs. 146·8 lakhs), oil-seeds (Rs. 298·1 lakhs), lac (Rs. 123·3 lakhs), and hides and skins (Rs. 130·0 lakhs). To the United Provinces, coal and coke (Rs. 121·8 lakhs), metals and manufactures thereof (Rs. 59·7 lakhs), tobacco (Rs. 61·0 lakhs), grain and pulses (Rs. 229·3 lakhs), sugar (Rs. 86·9 lakhs). To Bombay including the port, coal and coke (Rs. 143·4 lakhs), grain and pulse (Rs. 73·9 lakhs), metals and manufactures thereof (Rs. 84·1 lakhs), railway plant and rolling stock (Rs. 159·9 lakhs). To the Punjab, coal and coke (Rs. 154·7 lakhs), metals and manufactures thereof (Rs. 48·6 lakhs), sugar (Rs. 39·9 lakhs). To the Central Provinces and Berar, grain and pulse (Rs. 124·7 lakhs), coal and coke (Rs. 37·6 lakhs), metals and manufactures thereof (Rs. 49·2 lakhs). To Madras, coal and coke (Rs. 74·5 lakhs), grain and pulse (Rs. 65·9 lakhs); and to Karachi, coal and coke (Rs. 47·5 lakhs). **Exports.**

**286.** For the purposes of estimating internal trade by rail, the Province is divided into four blocks known as the Patna City, the Bihar, the Orissa and the Chota Nagpur blocks. The trade between these blocks was estimated at 32,778,000 maunds of goods and consisted chiefly of coal and coke, food-grains, metallic ores, sugar, wood and timber, chalk and lime, stones and marble, and railway materials. **Internal trade.**

# PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

## Establishment.

**287.** The appointments of Chief Engineers and Secretaries to Government in the Buildings and Roads and Irrigation Branches, were held by Messrs. Stanley and Clayton, respectively, throughout the year. **Administrative changes.**

In the Special Works Division, Bankipore, No. II Subdivision was closed and the works in it were distributed to other Subdivisions. A temporary Subdivision was opened under the Brahmini Division with headquarters at Harbhanga in connection with a diversion of the road from Tikarpara to Phulbani.

A revised scale of pay was sanctioned for the Revenue staff in the Orissa Circle, with effect from the 1st May 1918. The time-scale of pay for the Upper Subordinate establishment which had already been approved but could not be financed previously, was introduced with effect from the 1st January 1919.

Public Works Department Reorganization Committee.

**288.** At the request of the Government of India, a preliminary examination of the issues involved in the recommendations made by the Public Works Department Reorganization Committee relating to the transfer of Public Works to local bodies and to the encouragement of private enterprise in this Province, was considered in April by a small Committee comprising the two Chief Engineers, a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman of a District Board and an experienced District Engineer presided over by the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Public Works Department. Later on, the Local Government received the provisional recommendations made by the Government of India on the conclusions arrived at by the Public Works Department Reorganization Committee in regard to the transfer of Public Works to local bodies and the encouragement of private enterprise, questions of accounts, procedure and decentralization, organization and conditions of service of the specialist branches, and general reorganization of the department. Replies were submitted on all the questions on which the opinion of the Local Government was requested.

Public Services Commission.

**289.** The tentative conclusions of the Government of India, as far as the Public Works Department is concerned, on the recommendations contained in the report of the Public Services Commission were received for an expression of opinion of the Local Government and their views were communicated to the Government of India.

## Buildings.

### IMPERIAL MILITARY WORKS.

**290.** The construction of an armoury and quarters for the Sergeant Instructor of the Bihar Light Horse at Bhagalpur was completed. The Lascars' shed at Chandipur was rebuilt and a barrack was built for four constables and one Head-constable at that station. Progress was made with the collection of materials for the construction of other military buildings at Chandipur and for the improvement of the Chandipur road.

### IMPERIAL CIVIL WORKS.

Post and Telegraph Offices.

**291.** The construction of a combined Post and Telegraph office building at Madhupur was in progress. An existing building in the compound of the Hazaribagh Post office, was converted into Signaller's quarters. The Postal staff quarters at Raxaul which were under construction from the previous year, were completed. Quarters were built for the Deputy Postmaster, six clerks and a signaller attached to the Puri Post office.

Miscellaneous.

**292.** Mr. Graham's house at Bankipur was purchased at a cost of Rs. 28,706 for use as a combined office and residence for the Superintendent, Archæological Survey, Eastern Circle. Land was acquired and materials were collected for constructing an office and godown and an Inspection bungalow, for the Archæological Department at Nalanda.

New quarters were constructed for the 3rd clerk, one Draftsman-Surveyor and some other staff of the office of the Chief Inspector of Mines at Dhanbad. The construction of a residence for the Electrical Engineer, Pusa, was completed with the exception of a few petty items.

Two spurs were constructed in the river Siriswa at Raxaul for the protection of the Nepal Resident's bungalow against its encroachment. The Residency Overseer's quarters at Raxaul were taken in hand but could not be completed on account of the failure in brick burning.

The work of constructing a shed for the boatmen and khalasis at Hukitola was taken up.

PROVINCIAL CIVIL WORKS.

**293.** Some materials were collected for the new Civil Court buildings at Gaya. A stall was constructed for Muhammadan bakers in the Collectorate compound at Bankipur and certain improvements were also carried out in the said Collectorate and the office of the Board of Revenue. A Guard room with a cook-house for the Treasury Guard was constructed in the Deputy Commissioner's court at Hazaribagh and a vendors' stall was erected in the Kachahri compound at Purulia. The work of extending the existing certificate office and Nazarat building to provide accommodation for courts of Deputy Magistrates at Chapra was completed. Certain improvements were made in the Collector's Record-room at Cuttack and additions and alterations were carried out in the Shahabad Collectorate and to the Court Inspector's and Sadr Kanungo's rooms in the Puri Collectorate. Court Buildings.

The work on the construction of a building to accommodate *malkhana, hajat* and office of the Deputy Superintendent and Court Sub-Inspector in the Subdivisional court at Deoghar and of a new record-room and record racks in the Subdivisional court at Dinapore was in progress. Certain additions and alterations were carried out in the Subdivisional officer's court at Chatra and materials were collected for extending the Subdivisional court buildings at Siwan. Certain additions were made to the Subdivisional court building at Sassaram.

Fire appliances with an iron tank were provided for the court of the Subordinate Judge at Sambalpur. The erection of a Chaukidar's shed in the Munsif's court compound at Bihar was completed. Materials were collected for the extension of the Munsif's court at Dhanbad and the double Munsifi at Buxar was in progress.

**294.** Some additions and alterations were made to the out-houses attached to the Circuit House at Puri. The Circuit House at Dhanbad was provided with venetian shutters and the Chalet at Netarhat with an eternit sheet ceiling on the ground floor. Circuit Houses.

**295.** The following works were in progress in the Central Jail at Hazaribagh :— Jails.

(1) Closing up ventilating spaces in the several wards and cells and providing ventilating holes covered with iron grating.

(2) Replacing old-fashioned masonry night latrines by cottage pattern latrines.

(3) Closing up windows in the sentry boxes looking into the jail and allowing slits into the wall as peep-holes for sentries, etc.

(4) Fixing Blanchard lamps for lighting the jail at night.

(5) Improvement to water-supply of the Reformatory School and Central Jail.

The new double storied barrack and balconies to the existing barracks in the Central Jail at Bhagalpur were in progress and the five godown cells, cook-shed and latrine and a new hospital in the Gaya Central Jail were finally completed. Quarters were constructed for the additional Sub-Assistant Surgeon in the same jail and the construction of a separate female ward was nearing completion. Several other minor improvements were also carried out in the Central Jail at Gaya. The construction of two Assistant and Deputy Jailor's quarters in the Central Jail at Buxar was completed and materials were collected for the extension of the office building.

The construction of the Jailor's quarters in the intermediate jail at Dumka was almost completed. A wall was constructed round the work-shed in the Purulia Jail and bricks were collected for a double storied under-trial prisoners' and Segregation ward in the same jail. The works of constructing a cook-shed and certain improvements appertaining to the Cuttack Jail which were in progress from the previous year, were completed. Certain improvements

to the Puri Jail consisting of construction of quarters for the Jailor, Assistant Jailor, Head Warder and Matron and cow-shed and kitchen for the jail and Civil ward which had to be stopped during the previous year for want of cement, were resumed and completed. The work of strengthening the weak grated floor of the main sleeping ward of the Balasore Jail was almost completed.

A barrack for warders of the Kendrapara sub-jail was under construction.

Police.

**296.** At Bankipur, the old Opium Agent's office building was converted into Pirbahore Police-station, a start was made with the construction of quarters and stables for the Mounted Police Force in the compound of the Kotwali Police building. The Police out-post building at Mithapur was completed except for wire fencing, as also the Band Master's quarters and Kotwali Police buildings. The construction of a Town Police barrack and subsidiary buildings at Khajanchihat, Purnea, and the provision of extra rafters in the roof of the Constables' Training School barrack at Nathnagar, Bhagalpur, were taken up. The barrack for the accommodation of Armed Police and quarters for a Sergeant at Jamalpur and quarters for three Sub-Inspectors of Police and four Head-Constables at Araria were in progress. On the Nepal Frontier four out-post buildings were completed and the remaining four were in progress. The construction of the Constables' barrack at Dhanbad was taken in hand. Quarters were under construction for three Sub-Inspectors and five Head-Constables attached to the Police office at Dhanbad. The Police-station building with residential quarters at Saspur and the barrack for the Armed Reserve Police at Daltonganj which were in progress from the previous year were completed. New quarters were constructed for the Reserve Sub-Inspector of Police at Sambalpur.

The construction of two barracks (for 50 constables each) in connection with the Reserve Police buildings at Chapra was taken in hand and the roofs of both the barracks were in progress when the year closed. Considerable progress was also made with the Thana buildings at Bettiah.

A start was made with the construction of a double storied barrack with cook-sheds for the constables of the Reserve Police Lines at Cuttack. Two kitchens for patients of the Police Hospital in the above Police Lines and an infectious disease ward in the compound of the Constables' Training School at Chauliaganj (Cuttack) were constructed. Quarters were built for the Inspector of Temple Police at Puri and progress was made with the construction of quarters for the Police Inspector at Nimapara. The Police out-post at Patkura underwent some additions and alterations. The thatched roof of the Police office building at Angul was replaced by a terraced roof. The work of providing a non-inflammable roof to the Police-station building at Balasore was in progress.

Education.

**297.** The construction of the residence for the Principal, Greer Bhumihar Brahman College at Muzaffarpur, which was in progress from the previous year, was completed. The hostel blocks and out-houses of the College were in progress. The work of providing a system of drainage in the compound of the proposed Ravenshaw College buildings at Chauliaganj, Cuttack, was completed and some materials were collected for the construction of quarters for two Indian Educational Service officers in the aforesaid compound and trees were also planted in the compound. The conversion of the Gymnasium shed in the Law College, Patna, into class rooms was in progress. An additional plot of land was acquired for the extension of the play-ground of the Bihar School of Engineering at Bankipur. Certain improvements to the Purulia Zila School, such as the construction of a hall, two additional class rooms and a new verandah, etc., were in progress. Quarters were constructed for the Superintendent of the Muhammadan hostel attached to the above school. The construction of a hostel for 50 Hindu and Muhammadan boys of the Hazaribagh Zila School with Hostel Superintendent's quarters was in progress. The following works in the Reformatory School at Hazaribagh were either completed or in progress :—

(1) Providing a lightning-conductor to the roof of the opthalmic and operation room of the hospital attached to the school.

(2) Improvements to the water-supply of the bathing platforms for the boys.

(3) Making a water connection to the old and new staff quarters and providing a branch sewer to it.

(4) Improvement to the general cook-shed and constructing a guard house for the school.

The construction of an additional block for 16 workers with an office and store room in the compound of the Weaving School at Sambalpur was completed.

The residence and the office of the Inspectress of Schools, Muzaffarpur, were taken up and some materials were collected for the construction of the Principal's residence and the extension of the Sanskrit College, Muzaffarpur, and for the Teacher's quarters, of the High English School at Pusa. Progress was made with the construction of a hostel and a residence for the Lady Principal of the Ravenshaw Girls' School at Cuttack. The extension of the hostel attached to the Puri Zilla School which was in progress from the previous year, was completed. The old Zilla School buildings at Puri were permanently transferred to the Puri Sanskrit College which was provincialized. Certain additions and alterations were done to the old Civil Court buildings at Arrah to convert them into a hostel for the students.

**298.** The following works were completed in connection with the Temple Medical School and General Hospital at Bankipore :— Medical.

(1) Construction of a power-house in the Medical School.

(2) Providing a cooking range in the European patients' kitchen in the General Hospital.

(3) Converting the Hill Students' barrack into a Tuberculosis ward of the Medical School with Sub-Assistant Surgeon's quarters.

(4) Providing collapsible gate in the General Hospital main building and out-patients' block.

(5) The construction of a building for a Steam Laundry attached to the General Hospital.

(6) Extension of the kitchen for the Indian patients of the General Hospital.

(7) Adding a pantry with cup-boards to the European patients' kitchen.

The construction of a dissecting block in the Temple Medical School was in progress. Thorough repairs were done to several buildings in the General Hospital compound preparatory to their being brought on to the books of the Public Works Department.

The asylum for the European insanes at Kanke, Ranchi, was opened by the Medical Department on the 17th May 1918. Many minor improvements were done to the buildings at the suggestion of the Medical Department. In the asylum for Indian insanes the following buildings were practically completed :—

(1) 2 sets of clerks' quarters.

(2) 3 „ compounders' quarters.

(3) 3 „ Hospital Assistants' quarters.

(4) 2 „ Chauffeur's quarters.

(5) 2 „ Deputy Superintendent's quarters.

(6) 8 „ Menials' quarters.

(7) 3 „ Single attendants' quarters.

(8) Gate building, male enclosure.

(9) Enclosure wall for female asylum.

The erection of a water tower to give a supply of filtered water to the asylum buildings was in progress and the filter works were completed, except the wash water tank. Owing to the difficulty of procuring materials and the contemplated change of design of several important buildings, the full programme of work of the year could not be carried out.

The construction of a female out-patient ward and a covered passage connecting the above with the Lady Woodburn ward of the General Hospital, Cuttack, was in progress. The tiled roof over the anatomical class of the Cuttack Medical School was replaced by a terraced roof. Quarters were built for two Assistant Surgeon teachers in charge of the hostel for female students of the aforesaid school. The construction of a Leper Asylum at Cuttack was undertaken and the work was in full progress when the year closed. The construction of a new office building for the Civil Surgeon at Balasore was in progress. The Tuberculosis ward in the Sadr Hospital, Chapra, which was in progress from the previous year, was finally completed and made over to the Municipality. Progress was made with the construction of dispensary buildings at Balandapara, Khejuripada, Phiringia and Chendipada.

**Registration.**

**299.** The Sub-Registry office building at Islampur in the district of Purnea, was nearly completed. An office building was constructed for the Sub-Registrar at Giridih and the extension of the record room of the Registration office at Hazaribagh was in progress. The Sub-Registry office buildings at Pupri, Kendrapara and Koilwar were completed. Progress was made with the construction of a Sub-Registry office building at Jellasore and those at Kishanpur and Bikram were well-nigh completed.

**Public Works Department Buildings.**

**300.** An office building for the Executive Engineer, Cuttack Division, at Cuttack which was in progress from the previous year, was completed. Subdivisional office buildings and godowns were constructed at Bhagalpur and Chaibassa with the Subdivisional Officer's residence at the latter station. A godown for storing famine tools and a cement godown were constructed at Chaibassa and Dhanbad respectively. The Sectional Officer's quarters at Khatmandu, which was in progress from the previous year, was completed and the Sectional Officer's office room and peon's shed at Khurda, which were burnt by fire in 1916-17, were, reconstructed during the year. The work of additions and alterations to the Executive Engineer's office at Hazaribagh was in progress and the Public Works Department Subdivisional clerks' quarters were constructed at Bargarh.

**Monuments and antiquities.**

**301.** A solid iron beam was transferred from the Black Pagoda at Konarak to the Calcutta Museum. Some special repairs were done to the temple at Konarak with a view to preventing the collapse of certain stone work of the temple. The erection of a monument on the battle-field at Buxar was almost completed, except for fine polishing and erection of fencing. Barbed wiring was provided above the railing of the Bodh-Gaya Museum.

**Residences for the Lieutenant-Governor and other Government officials.**

**302.** At Government House at Ranchi a three-roomed cottage with bathrooms fitted with water connections, and electric lights and fans, was constructed. Certain additions and alterations were also carried out on the Guard House and the construction of the new gate buildings was nearly completed. Certain improvements were made to the Government House at Puri and a barrack with a cook-shed was constructed for the Police Guard attached to that Government House.

The quarters for the motor driver in the compound of the Commissioner's residence and a new cook-shed in the Deputy Commissioner's residence at Ranchi, which were in progress from the previous year, were completed. The construction of a stable and a coach-house for the Chaplain's residence at Cuttack was in progress.

Residences for a Sub-Judge and three Munsifs at Bankipore were completed and the remaining two Sub-Judges' residences were approaching completion. The construction of a new residence for the Executive Engineer at Sambalpur was in progress and the residence of the Agency Inspector of Schools for the Orissa Feudatory States was nearly completed.

Capital Works.

**303.** The quarters of the Post Office staff and of the Police were completed. A motor garage was built in the Secretariat compound.

Residences for the following officers were completed :—

Postmaster-General, Bihar and Orissa; Deputy Postmaster-General; Superintendent of Post Offices (Traffic); European and Indian Personal Assistants to the Postmaster-General; Assistant Secretary, Public Works Department; Assistant Commissioner of Excise and Salt, Bihar and Orissa; Personal Assistant to the Inspector-General of Police; Assistant Director of Public Instruction; Assistant Sanitary Engineer; Superintendent, Civil Veterinary Department; Inspector-General of Police; Commissioner of Excise and Salt; Electrical Engineer; Deputy Director of Agriculture; Director of Public Instruction; Registrar, Co-operative Societies; Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of Excise and Salt.

The following buildings were also completed during the year under review :—

(1) Barracks for menials attached to the Secretariat.

(2) Quarters for peons attached to the officers' residences.

(3) Quarters for compounders and barracks for menials attached to the outdoor dispensary at Amlatola.

The Central Power House for electric plant was almost completed except the patent stone flooring which could not be taken up owing to the various boilers and engine not having been fixed in position.

The greater part of the earthwork of the Patna-Dinapore road (from the Government House) was completed and also the laying of soling and the first coat of metalling was in progress in some portions of the road.

Miscellaneous.

**304.** The Guards' shed at Gulzarbagh was converted into the Press Dispensary with quarters for a Sub-Assistant Surgeon and a Compounder. Certain minor alterations and improvements were made in several other buildings.

The foundations of the new Tej Narayan Jubilee College at Bhagalpur were laid and arrangements were made for clearing and levelling the site.

A statement of expenditure on Original Works—Civil Buildings—is given below :—

| | Rs. |
|---|---|
| Administration ... ... ... ... | 6,70,885 |
| Monuments and Antiquities ... ... ... | 12,376 |
| Educational ... ... ... ... | 3,48,437 |
| Ecclesiastical ... ... ... ... | 67 |
| Law and Justice ... ... ... ... | 1,73,912 |
| Jails ... ... ... ... | 1,90,274 |
| Police ... ... ... ... | 2,60,936 |
| Medical ... ... ... ... | 5,27,911 |
| Miscellaneous ... ... ... ... | 79,318 |
| Total ... | 22,64,116 |

## Architectural Work.

Architectural Work.

**305.** The value of the work designed in the year 1918-19 was about 50,58,893. The Consulting Architect was engaged on the following projects during the year 1918-19. Projects for Government House, Ranchi (Gate House), residence for the Postmaster-General with out-houses, residence for Inspector-General of Police, residence for the Director of Land Records and Surveys and for the Commissioner of Excise, residences for the Director of Public Instruction and the Registrar of Co-operative Societies.

The drawings and estimates of projects for Ravenshaw College, with Hindu and Muhammadan Hostels, Science College, Botany Block, Principal and Vice-Principal's residences, etc., Tej Narain Jubilee College with Hindu and Muhammadan Hostels, Science College, Principal and Vice-Principal's residences, etc., Greer Bhumihar Brahman College with Hindu and Muhammadan Hostels, Science College, Principal and Vice-Principal's residences, etc. Water towers at Daltonganj, Bhagalpur and Chapra, water tower (for General Hospital) at Patna and construction of second floor for the additional accommodation for His Honour's suite at Puri are complete and building operations have in most cases started.

Projects for the Civil Court at Gaya and Museum and Library at Patna are at present under consideration and sketch plans and elevations only have been submitted.

Designs and suggestions were prepared and put forward for the University Buildings at Patna.

*Statement showing the designs prepared by the Government Architect, Bihar and Orissa in the year* 1918-19.

| Serial No. | Name of project. | Where constructed. | Approximate estimated cost. | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | | | Rs. | |
| 1 | Ravenshaw College, with Hindu and Muhammadan Hostels, Science College, Botany Block, Principal and Vice-Principal's residences, etc. | Cuttack ... | 10,00,000 | |
| 2 | Tej Narayan Jubilee College, with Hindu and Muhammadan Hostels, Science College, Principal and Vice-Principal's residences, etc. | Bhagalpur ... | 7,22,191 | |
| 3 | Greer Bhumihar Brahman College, with Hindu and Muhammadan Hostels, Science College, Principal and Vice-Principal's residence, etc. | Muzaffarpur ... | 4,72,293 | |
| 3A | Water Tower ... ... ... | Daltonganj ... | 15,000 | |
| 4 | Ditto ... ... ... | Bhagalpur ... | 56,000 | |
| 4A | Ditto ... ... ... | Chapra ... | 40,000 | |
| 5 | Ditto (for General Hospital, Patna) ... | Patna ... | 15,900 | |
| 6 | Civil Court ... ... ... ... | Gaya ... | 2,00,000 | |
| 7 | Government House, Ranchi (Gate House) ... | Ranchi ... | 2,468 | |
| | PATNA UNIVERSITY PROJECT. | | | |
| 8 | Lay-out plan of, Patna University, Patna College with Hostels. | Patna ... | 8,63,435 | |
| | Science College ... ... ... | Do. ... | 10,64,382 | |
| 8A | Construction of second floor for the additional accommodation for His Honour's suite at Puri. | Puri ... | 9,700 | |
| 9 | Residence for Postmaster-General with out-houses. | Patna ... | 33,379 | |

| Serial No. | Name of project. | Where constructed. | Approximate estimated cost. | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | | | Rs. | |
| 10 | Residence for Inspector-General of Police ... | Patna ... | 33,379 | |
| 11 | Residence for Director of Land Records and Commissioner of Excise. | Do. ... | 72,806 | 2 buildings constructed. |
| 12 | Residences for Director of Public Instruction and Registrar of Co-operative Credit Societies. | Do. ... | 72,810 | 2 ditto. |
| 13 | Residences, Type E (two-storied) ... ... | Do. ... | 77,920 | 4 ditto. |
| 14 | Residences, Type E (two-storied) alternative design. | Do. ... | 58,131 | 3 ditto. |
| 15 | Museum and Library ... ... ... | Do. ... | 2,50,000 | |
| | Total ... | ..... | 50,58,993 | |

## Communications.

**306.** Only ordinary communication work in progress from previous years, and works of a very urgent character were taken up and carried out. A number of important schemes had to be deferred owing to the financial stringency, while for the same reason and for reasons of economy other projects which required materials from England were postponed. The main work done during the year, therefore, has been repair work. General.

**307.** A fair-weather track was prepared towards the close of the year between Patna and Gaya *via* Khagaul, Masaurhi and Jahanabad which forms the alignment of the through trunk road between Bihar and Orissa. The widening of the road along the river bank from Bankipur Civil Station to Dinapur was almost completed. The portion of the old Patna-Gaya road lying between the Collector's Gate and the new Post Office, Patna, was considerably improved by being remetalled and tarred. Additional waterways were provided in miles 303 and 308 of the Grand Trunk road in order to prevent it from being over-topped and breached by floods. Trial borings were taken in the Lilajan river at Dobhi where it is proposed to build a high level bridge in place of the causeway which was washed away in the floods of August 1917. The remaining portion of this road was maintained in good condition. Bihar roads.

**308.** Considerable improvements were made to the road from Ranchi to Chaibassa which constitutes a link in the through route. Waterways of the culverts at places where the road used to be flooded during the rains, were increased, and the wooden floors of some of the bridges which were old and in bad disrepair were replaced by masonry arched floors. The remodelling and reconstruction of the old culverts on the second section of this road from Hessadih to Tebo and from Tebo to Chakradharpur were completed. The work of widening and remetalling miles 5 to 7 of the road from Barakar to Purulia was in progress, while widening the right flank of the road throughout, was completed. Materials were collected for the construction of the bridges over the Gowain and Izri rivers on the Chas-Gulbera road, and a start was made with the work. Chota Nagpur.

**309.** The work of improving the Cuttack-Sambalpur road, second section, was nearly completed while that of the Angul-Tickerpara road, second section, was in progress; all the bridges and culverts on the latter road were built. Materials were collected during the year for the construction of bridges over the Nigra, the Matulia, and another stream on the first section of the Angul-Tickerpara road. The work of metalling the Cuttack-Sonpur road lying in the Banki Estate and the second section of the Cuttack-Sambalpur road, approached completion. A proposal to divert the Cuttack-Sonpur road between Harbhanga and Sitalpani was approved, and work taken in hand during the Orissa.

year. The construction of a bridge on the 7th mile of the Harbhanga-Phulbani road was undertaken during the year under report and nearly completed. Considerable progress was also made with the construction of a bridge over the Nigra river at Matanga on the Cuttack-Angul road. Approval was given to the construction of a vented causeway on the 12th mile of the Orissa Trunk road, north; materials were collected and the work taken in hand during the year. Bridges on the Raipur-Sambalpur road were remodelled, and the construction of a raised causeway over the Bargarh nala on the road from Bargarh to Bolangir was almost finished.

Contribution work.

**310.** The construction of four high level bridges on the road from Chaibassa to Jamshedpur which were in progress in the previous year, were completed and materials were collected for building a causeway over the Khorkia river on the same road.

Roadside accommodation.

**311.** The old Dâk Bungalow at Dehri was converted into an office and quarters for the Sectional Officer in charge of the Grand Trunk road.

A first-class Inspection Bungalow with out-houses at Jamshedpur, the construction of which had been undertaken during the previous year, was completed, and the bungalow provided with furniture, crockery and electric lights and fans. The construction of a third Inspection Bungalow at Netarhat was almost completed at the end of the year, and certain improvements were made to the combined Dâk and Inspection Bungalow at Giridih.

Work on the reconstruction of the Inspection Bungalow at Sitalpani on the Cuttack-Sonpur road was in progress during the year under report. The extension of the Dâk Bungalow at Cuttack which was taken in hand last year reached completion. The extended portion has been reserved as an annexe to the Circuit House at the station.

Arboriculture.

**312.** The trees and nurseries along roadsides were maintained as in previous years, so far as funds permitted; young trees were also planted to make new avenues and to fill in gaps where necessary.

## Miscellaneous Public Improvements.

General.

**313.** No very important works of public improvements could be undertaken during the year under report on account of scarcity of funds. Only a number of works affording protection to Government buildings from erosion by rivers were carried out.

Protective Works.

**314.** The construction of the skin revetment along the right bank of the river Ganges from the compound of the Civil Surgeon's residence to the west of the nala near Bankipur Club, was practically completed. Measures were taken to protect the river bank below the Patna College, and to strengthen the skin revetment below the quarters of the Principal of the Bihar School of Engineering at Bankipur. The old revetment below the Recreation Bungalow at Gulzarbagh was damaged by the unusually heavy rainfall of September 1918 and collapsed. Materials were collected for reconstructing the same and the foundation was started.

Drainage.

**315.** A masonry drain was constructed across the Race Course at Muzaffarpur with the two-fold object of draining the low-lying areas within the Race Course, and providing an outlet for the drainage of the compounds of the residences of several Government officials in the vicinity.

Sanitation.

**316.** Improvement to the tank in the Kachahri compound at Banki was in progress.

Miscellaneous.

**317.** The metalled road on the crest of the Katjuri left embankment at Cuttack from the Collectorate to the Puri Ghat, which was under construction last year, was completed.

## Railways.

Administrations.

**318.** There are no railways under the direct control of the Government of Bihar and Orissa. With the exception of the three following light railways of local importance which are subject to a certain measure of control by the

Local Government, all the important lines are under the direct administration of the Government of India in the Railway Department (Railway Board).

| | Gauge. | Mileage. |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway ... ... | 2′ 6″ | 65·26 |
| 2. Bakhtiyarpur-Bihar Light Railway ... | 2′ 6″ | 33·00 |
| 3. Dehri-Rohtas Light Railway ... ... | 2′ 6″ | 23·83 |
| Total ... | | 122·09 |

**319.** During the year under report no new line was opened to traffic. The total mileage on the 31st March 1919 was therefore :— Mileage.

| | Miles. |
|---|---|
| 1. Standard Gauge ... ... ... ... | 1,660·75 |
| 2. Metre Gauge ... ... ... ... | 1,178·66 |
| 3. 2′ 6″ Gauge ... ... ... ... | 269·31 |
| 4. 2′ 0″ Gauge ... ... ... ... | 39·00 |
| Total ... | 3,147·72 |

**320.** The following lines were under construction or sanctioned for construction during the year :— Lines sanctioned or under construction.

| | Gauge. | Miles. |
|---|---|---|
| Fatwa-Islampur ... ... ... | 2′ 6″ | 27·00 |
| Mayurbhanj Extension ... ... ... | 2′ 6″ | 38·71 |
| Bengal-Nagpur Railway :— | | |
| Anara-Kargali ... ... ... | 5′ 6″ | 5·80 |
| Kandra-Gomharia ... ... ... | 5′ 6″ | 5·53 |
| Onlajori-Sulapet with branch Badampahar | 5′ 6″ | 21·75 |
| Portion of the Raipur-Parbartipuram section (from a point near Gurjabota to a point near Bhowanipatna Road) | 5′ 6″ | 92·00 |
| Panposh-Raipura. | 5′ 6″ | 14·30 |

**321.** The following surveys were completed during the year :— Surveys completed.

| | Gauge. | Miles. |
|---|---|---|
| Kasta Coal-field Railway :— | | |
| (*i*) From a point near the north end of the Adjai bridge on the Ondal-Sainthia chord to Kasta Paharpur. | 5′ 6″ | 17·01 |
| (*ii*) From a point near Gaurangdi on the Ondal Loop to Kasta-Paharpur. | 5′ 6″ | 2·12 |
| Amda-Jamda Railway:— | | |
| (Kolhan-Keonjhar Railway) From Amda to a point in the neighbourhood of Jamda. | 5′ 6″ | 68 |

**322.** Authority was given by the Railway Board to undertake the following surveys during the year :— Surveys sanctioned.

(1) To the Bengal Nagpur Railway :—

(*a*) Detailed survey for a line of railway on the 5′ 6″ gauge from Amda, a station on the Bengal Nagpur Railway, *via* Chaibasa to a point to be selected in the neighbourhood of Jamda.

(*b*) A reconnaissance survey to determine the best alignment to serve the iron ore deposits to the south of Jamda, with the town of Keonjhar as a final objective.

The above surveys are known as the Kolhan-Keonjhar Railway survey. A length of 68 miles has already been surveyed during the year.

(2) To the East Indian Railway :—

A detailed survey for a line of railway on the 5′-6″ gauge from a point on the Ondal-Sainthia section of the East Indian Railway to serve the Kasta collieries, a distance of about 18 miles. This survey was also completed during the year.

(3) To the Bengal Nagpur Railway :—

A detailed survey for a line of railway on the 5′6″ gauge from the neighbourhood of Leiyo in the Bokharo coal-field to serve the south Karanpura coal field, a distance of about 40 miles.

Accidents.

**323.** There were 14 accidents including minor cases of derailments of goods wagons. In three cases there was loss of life, four people being killed and three wounded. In one other instance a child sustained serious injuries.

## Canals—Irrigation and Navigation.

[Administration Report of Irrigation Works, Bihar and Orissa, for the year 1918-19.]

Expenditure.

**324.** The transactions of the Irrigation Branch of the Public Works Department for the year 1918-19 relating to works of Irrigation and Navigation are shown in the Table below. The embankment and drainage works are reviewed in a separate report and are not noticed in this report.

*Capital Account.*

| Heads. | Amount of Construction Estimate. | Expenditure during 1918-19. | Expenditure to end of 1918-19. | Balance for expenditure from 1st April 1919. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. |
| MAJOR IRRIGATION WORKS— | | | | |
| PRODUCTIVE IRRIGATION WORKS— | | | | |
| Direct charges ... ... | 5,26,69,736 | 4,640 | 5,24,25,647 | 2,44,281 |
| Indirect charges ... ... | 15,25,735 | 352 | 15,30,898 | —5,163 |
| Total ... | 5,41,95,471 | 4,992 | 5,39,56,545 | 2,39,118 |
| PROTECTIVE IRRIGATION WORKS— | | | | |
| Direct charges ... ... | 87,80,457 | 1,31,207 | 81,71,824 | 6,08,633 |
| Indirect charges ... ... | 2,25,222 | 5,761 | 2,28,556 | —3,334 |
| Total ... | 90,05,679 | 1,36,968 | 84,00,380 | 6,05,299 |
| MINOR WORKS AND NAVIGATION— | | | | |
| Direct charges ... ... | 6,86,833 | ... | 6,86,833 | ... |
| Indirect charges ... ... | 27,973 | ... | 27,973 | ... |
| Total ...l | 7,14,806 | ... | 7,14,806 | ... |

*Revenue Account.*

| Heads. | Receipt. | Working Expenses. | | | Net Revenue. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Direct. | Indirect. | Total Working Expenses. | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. |
| MAJOR IRRIGATION WORKS* ... | 27,33,954 | 14,34,963 | 1,09,911 | 15,44,874 | 11,89,080 |
| MINOR WORKS AND NAVIGATION— | | | | | |
| Works for which Capital and Revenue Accounts are kept. | 758 | 792 | 48 | 840 | —82 |
| Works for which only Revenue Accounts are kept. | 6,477 | 33,252 | 2,317 | 35,569 | —29,092 |
| Works for which neither Capital nor Revenue Accounts are kept. | 4,789 | 2,141 | ... | 2,,141 | 2,648 |

* Inclusive of the Dhaka and the Tribeni Canals.

**325.** The following statements show the areas irrigated during the year compared with the average of the triennial period ending with March 1918 :— **Irrigation.**

*Major Works (Productive).*

| | Orissa Canals. | | | Sone Canals. | | | Total. | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *Kharif* inclusive of hot weather | *Rabi.* | Total. | *Kharif* inclusive of hot weather | *Rabi.* | Total. | *Kharif* inclusive of hot whether | Rabi. | Total. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| | Acres. | Acres. | Acres. | Acres. | Acres' | Acres. | Acres. | Acres. | Acres. |
| Average of the Triennium 1915-18 ... | 2,69,597 | 5,885 | 2,75,482 | 461,394 | 71,702 | 5,33,046 | 7,30,941 | 77,587 | 8,08,528 |
| For 1918-19 ... ... ... | 2,79,870 | (a) 5,329 | 2,85,199 | 4,71,681 | (b) 1,67,723 | 6,39,404 | 7,51,551 | (c) 1,73,052 | 9,24,603 |

(*a*) Season lease,

(*b*) Includes long lease 21,867 acres and season lease 1,45,856 acres,

(*c*) Includes long lease 21,867 acres and season lease 15,185 acres,

NOTE.—All collections for season leases (*Rabi*) are made in the following year, 1919-20 but those for long leases are made during the year 1918-19,

*Major Works—(Protective).*

| | Tribeni Canal. | | | Dhaka Canal. | | | Total. | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *Kharif* inclusive of hot weather. | *Rabi.* | Total. | *Kharif* inclusive of hot weather. | *Rabi.* | Total. | *Kharif* inclusive of hot weather. | *Rabi.* | Total. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| | Acres. | Acres. | Acres. | Acres. | Acres. | Acres. | Acres. | Acres | Acres. |
| Average of the Triennium 1915-18 ... | 46,999 | ... | 46,999 | 5,243 | 465 | 5,708 | 52,242 | 465 | 52,707 |
| For 1918-19 ... ... ... | 57,454 | ... | 57,454 | 8,677 | (*a*) 169 | 8,846 | 66,131 | (*a*) 169 | 66,300 |

(*a*) Season lease.

*Minor Works.*

| | Saran Canals. | | | Teur Canal. | | | Total. | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *Kharif* inclusive of hot weather. | *Rabi.* | Total. | *Kharif* inclusive of hot weather. | *Rabi.* | Total. | *Kharif* inclusive of hot weather. | *Rabi.* | Total. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| | Acres. | Acres | Acres. | Acres. | Acres | Acres. | Acres. | Acres. | Acres. |
| Average of the Triennium 1915-18 ... | Canals | closed | ... | 1,344 | 33 | *1,377 | 1,344 | 33 | 1,377 |
| For 1918-19 ... ... ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,981 | (*a*) 20 | †2,001 | 1,981 | (*a*)20 | 2,001 |

(a) Season lease.

* Includes the Madhuban Zamindar's *zirat* land.

† Includes 168 acres of the Madhuban Zamindar's *zirat* land.

NOTE.—All collections for season leases (*Rabi*) are made in the following year 1919-20 and those for long leases are made during the year (1918-19).

Lengths of canals.

**326.** The lengths of canals and distributaries in operation during the year 1918-19 compared with the previous year are as follows:—

| | Orissa Canals. | | Sone Canals. | | Tribeni Canal. | | Dhaka Canal. | | Teur Canal. | | * Saran Canals. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1917-18 | 1918-19 | 1917-18 | 1918-19 | 1917-18 | 1918-19 | 1917-18 | 1918-19 | 1917-18 | 1918-19 | 1917-18 | 1918-19 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| | Miles. | Miles. | Miles. | Miles. | Miles. | Miles. | Miles. | Miles. | Miles. | Miles. | Miles. | Miles. |
| Main canal (Irrigation) ... | 223¼ | 223¼ | (*a*)208¾ | 208¾ | 61¼ | 61¼ | 3½ | 3½ | 6½ | 6½ | Canals closed. | |
| Branch canal (Irrigation) ... | 103 | 103 | 148¾ | 148¾ | ... | ... | 15½ | 15½ | ... | ... | | |
| Distributaries ... ... | 1,291⅜ | 1,293¼ | 1,235¾ | 1,234⅝ | 160½ | 173⅓ | 23 11/16 | 23 11/16 | 6⅛ | 6¼ | ... | ... |
| Of above—Navigable channels ... | 204¼ | 204¼ | (*a*)208¾ | 208¾ | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |

* Canals closed since the 1st April 1894.

(*a*) The figure shown in previous reports was incorrect.

Navigation.

**327.** The following statement shows the traffic on the Navigable Canals during the year 1918-19 compared with the average of the triennium 1915-18 :—

| | Orissa Canal. | | Sone Canals. | | *Orissa Coast Canal. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Average for the triennium ending with March 1918. | For the year 1918-19. | Average for the triennium ending with March 1918. | For the year 1918-19. | Average for the triennium ending with March 1918. | For the year 1918-19. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| | Miles. | Miles. | Miles. | Miles. | Miles. | Miles. |
| Length of canal open ... | 204¾ | 204¾ | 208¾ | 208¾ | 95½ | 95½ |
| | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. |
| Receipts ... ... | 71,186 | 71,392 | 18,872 | 28,393 | 6,112 | 5,197 |
| | Tons. | Tons. | Tons. | Tons. | Tons. | Tons. |
| Tonnage of boats by canal measurement. | 4,21,182 | 4,49,965 | 46,597 | 85,868 | 29,378 | 29,617 |
| Estimated weight of cargo exclusive of rafts. | 1,45,095 | 1,54,001 | 16,217 | 23,774 | 10,422 | 19,708 |
| | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. |
| Estimated value of goods | 1,07,28,793 | 1,15,13,902 | 9,61,746 | 19,54,670 | 6,43,598 | 6,38,324 |
| Estimated value of rafts | 3,07,872 | 1,63,760 | 3,19,755 | 3,58,077 | 14,469 | 21,870 |

* For 95½ miles only lying in the province of Bihar and Orissa.

Classification of Irrigation and Navigation Works.

**328.** (I) *Major Works.*—Of the four Major Irrigation Works in this Province, two, viz. the Orissa and Sone Canals are classed as Productive and the other two, viz. the Tribeni and Dhaka Canals are Protective Irrigation Works—

(*a*) The Orissa and Sone Canals were originally constructed from funds under the Imperial head "49—Irrigation" and were classed as "Productive" as it was expected that the net revenue derived from them would repay the annual interest on the capital invested. The expectation has never been realised in the case of the Orissa Canal system. The Sone system is however now paying a four per cent interest. Further capital outlay on both these systems is now being incurred under the head "Navigation" and their Revenue Account is kept under the head "42—Major Works—Working Expenses" which is also a divided head. The canals are utilized both for irrigation and navigation.

(*b*) Construction of Protective Irrigation Works. The Tribeni and Dhaka Canals, which have been constructed from funds under the Imperial head "35", though not directly remunerative, are calculated to guard against a probable future expenditure of relief to the population of the tract of country served. The Tribeni Canal is almost complete, the Rangi distributary has not yet been fully constructed and permanent outlets and some village channels are yet remaining. The extra works outside the construction estimate, which were approved by the Government of India in 1916 and which provide additional drainage facilities across the canal to enable it to withstand the high floods which in one part or another of the tract occur almost annually, have been completed except the Bhora aqueduct, under

construction, and the Pandai spill syphon. The cost of these additional works is being charged under the Open Capital Account rules to the head "35". These Canals are open to irrigation only.

*II. Minor Works and Navigation—*

There are three canal systems under this class—

(*a*) Orissa Coast Canal.—The canal 95½ miles long (in this Province) is used for navigation only.

(*b*) The Teur (Madhuban Canal) is a small work intended for irrigation only.

(*c*) Saran Canals.—Capital and Revenue Accounts have hitherto been kept under the head "43—Minor Works and Navigation"; as the canals have remained practically closed to irrigation since 1894 there was a proposal under consideration to abandon them altogether, but was rejected as the Managers of two indigo concerns agreed to pay the annual cost of maintenance of the canals.

The progress of the year for the works under each of the above heads is briefly stated in the following summary.

## ORISSA CIRCLE.

### Major Irrigation Works (Productive).

*Orissa Canals.*

**Capital Account.**

**329.** The expenditure (direct charges) debited to the Capital Account of the Orissa Canals during the year was only Rs. 2,687. The total capital outlay for direct charges up to the end of the year was Rs. 2,64,64,491.

**Works in Progress.**

**330.** The only work, chargeable to the Capital Account, which was in progress during the year was the construction of a minor distributary at Solanpur from the 21st chain of the first mile of No. 2A distributary of the High Level Canal Range III. 75 per cent of the earth work was done and materials for masonry works collected.

**Revenue Account—extensions and improvements.**

**331.** The total expenditure of new works chargeable to the Revenue Account amounted to Rs. 7,263 against Rs. 12,409 in the previous year. No work of any importance was undertaken and the expenditure was mainly incurred on certain small distributaries, office buildings and residences.

**Maintenance and repairs.**

**332.** The expenditure amounted to Rs. 1,58,276 against Rs. 1,57,345 in the previous year. The head-works, main canals with their distributaries, drainage and protective works were maintained in a fair order. As there was no heavy flood during the year, no special repairs had to be carried out.

**Length of distributaries.**

**333.** During the year nearly 2 miles of distributary channels were added.

**Rainfall.**

**334.** The average rainfall for the year at the 13 recording stations was only 47·85 inches against the average of 58·76 inches for the previous 49 years. The rainfall of the year was much below the normal and not well distributed. The scanty rain in July and the severe and prolonged drought in October caused widespread damage to the standing paddy crop on unleased areas. Canal water was supplied as well as possible to the leased areas on which a fair crop was reaped. The drought in October did also a good deal of damage to the *Rabi* crop.

**Irrigation.**

**335.** The area irrigated was 285,199 acres against 271,576 in 1917-18 The increase is due to unfavourable rainfall. The total assessment for water-rates on the area irrigated was Rs. 4,83,948 against Rs. 4,52,096 in 1917-1918. About 0·7 per cent of the net total demand remained uncollected at the end of the year. This percentage is unusually high but is due to the drought and abnormally high prices.

**336.** The receipts from Navigation tolls on the Orissa canals amounted to Rs. 71,392 against Rs. 72,036 in the preceding year. There was a little decrease in the tonnage of boats and some increase in the value of cargo. **Navigation.**

**337.** The revenue and working expenses (direct and indirect) were Rs. 5,86,802 and Rs. 4,08,748 respectively, against Rs. 5,80,779 and Rs. 4,92,800 of the previous year. Thus the net revenue which amounted to Rs. 1,78,054 was only ·65 per cent on the capital outlay and did not cover the interest charges of the year. The Government of India having asked for a careful investigation into the unsatisfactory financial position of the canals in this Province, a thorough analysis of the revenue and working expenses of the Orissa canals, which were chiefly responsible was completed. **Financial results.**

**338.** The canals were closed for annual repairs for the number of days detailed below :— **Canal closure.**

| Name of canal. | Days closed. |
|---|---|
| Taldanda canal ... ... ... ... | 31 |
| Machgaon „ ... ... ... ... | 36 |
| Kendrapara „ ... ... ... ... | 31 |
| Kendrapara Extension ... ... ... | 31 |
| Gobri Canal ... ... ... ... | 31 |
| Gobri Extension canal ... ... ... | 31 |
| Pattamundi canal... ... ... ... | 31 |
| High level canal Range I ... ... ... | 37 |
| Do. Range II ... ... ... | 48 |
| Do. Range III ... ... ... | 52 |
| Jajpur canal ... ... ... ... | 50 |

**339.** There were no severe storms or high floods during the year. **Floods.**

## Minor Works and Navigation.

**340.** The canal (95½ miles in this Province) was maintained in fair order and was open to traffic throughout the year. A portion of Range V of the canal was partially cleared of silt at a cost of Rs. 5,673 against the sanctioned amount of Rs. 13,264. Want of coal retarded progress. Some shoals were removed in miles 101 and 104 of the canal. **Orissa Coast Canals.**

No new works were carried out. The total cost of maintenance (direct and indirect) including dredging amounted to Rs. 35,569 against Rs. 30,195 of the previous year. The gross receipts were Rs. 6,478. Export through this canal was less during the year owing to failure of crops and consequent restrictions on the export of food crops from the district. The rainfall was below normal.

## SONE CIRCLE.

### Major Irrigation Works (Productive).

*Sone Canals.*

**341.** The total capital outlay (direct charges) on the system up to end of 1918-19 was Rs. 2,59,61,156 of which Rs. 2,145 represents the expenditure during **Capital account.**

1918-19. The total expenditure on works only in 1918-19 was Rs. 4,592 as detailed below :—

| | Rs. |
|---|---|
| (1) Constructing 13 permanent outlets for Chausa Branch Canal... | 757 (completed). |
| (2) Constructing a syphon in the 2nd mile of the Khargarh distributary ... ... ... ... | 1,472 (completed). |
| (3) Constructing permanent outlets in the Sikraul Subdivision ... | 735 (in progress). |
| (4) Constructing permanent outlets in the Daudnagar Subdivision | 1,628 (in progress). |

**Revenue Account—Extensions and Improvements.**

**342.** The total expenditure during the year on extension and improvements amounted to Rs. 57,498. The most important of these works was the construction of the river gates for the Digha Lock Weir at a cost of Rs. 40,666. The balance was spent on small quarters for some of the Revenue staff and on rest sheds, etc.

**Maintenance and Repairs.**

**343.** The annual repairs to the canals and head works were carried out during the year at a total expenditure of Rs. 2,64,070 against Rs. 2,68,685 of the previous year.

**Rainfall.**

**344.** The average rainfall of the 12 stations in the three Divisions was 39·92 inches compared with average of 39·66 inches for the last 36 years and 46·38 for the year 1917-18. The rainfall over the Buxar Division was considerably below normal and this Division felt the drought in September and October severely. The rainfall in the other Divisions was just about the normal but was not well distributed over the year. The whole of October and November was absolutely rainless and the *hathia* abnormally dry.

**Irrigation.**

**345.** The area irrigated during the year was 639,404 acres against 526,492 acres of the preceding year. The large increase is due to the failure of rains during the *rabi* season making the irrigated area (167,723) nearly three times the normal. The *kharif* and hot weather areas were also 6,000 acres above the average of the previous 5 years. In spite of the rainless *hathia* the *kharif* outturn was very nearly normal. The total assessment for water-rates amounted to Rs. 18,80,590 of which Rs. 18,73,036 was realized during the year, Rs. 390 was remitted and the unusually large balance of Rs. 7,093 remained unrealized at the close of the year, or 0·17 per cent of the nett demand.

**Navigation Receipts.**

**346.** The receipts from navigation amounted to Rs. 28,393 against Rs. 22,618 of the year before and an average of Rs. 20,600 for the last 5 years. The increase is due to the restrictions in the railway service.

**Financial Results.**

**347.** The gross receipts and working expenses (direct and indirect) were respectively Rs. 19,96,830 and Rs. 8,24,813 against Rs. 19,13,565 and Rs. 8,34,781 of the previous year. The nett receipts after deducting working expenses amounted to Rs. 11,72,017 which was 4 per cent on the capital outlay.

**Canal Closure.**

**348.** There were no canal closures for annual repairs during 1918-19.

**Floods.**

**349.** There were no river floods of any consequence during the monsoon of 1918-19. A gauge of 338·41 was recorded at Barun on August 26th and a gauge of 337·48 on September 3rd was recorded at Dehri. Both of the canals were closed on each occasion.

**Flushing operations.**

**350.** There were three flushes in the Main Eastern Canal, the first two of which in July made no impression on the silt. The third flush which was run during the first fortnight of October when the demand for water was very great, moved nearly the whole of the new accumulation of the flood season. It was

not a favourable season for flushing as although the river supply was maintained in an excellent manner, considering the entire lack of rain after the middle of September, it did not last long enough. The maximum discharge passed down was 2,218 cusecs. The total quantity of silt removed was 475,000 c.ft. against 6,00,000 c.ft. deposited.

The maximum discharge sent down was 4,220 cusècs on the 2nd October. About 968,000 c.ft of silt was removed.

### 43—Minor Works and Navigation for which neither Capital nor Revenue Accounts are kept.

**351.** Preliminary surveys were started or continued on the Butana and other rivers in the Palamau District with a view to test their capabilities for storage of water. Further discharge observations are being taken. **Investigation in connection with possible Irrigation schemes.**

A proposition to divert the Sakri river in the Gaya district back to its old bed, was further examined during the year.

## GANDAK CIRCLE.

### Major Irrigation Works (Protective).

*Tribeni Canal.*

**352.** Works included in the construction estimate's schedule of incomplete works and other works subsequently sanctioned as chargeable to the open Capital account are in progress. The total expenditure (direct and indirect) debited to the Capital account amounted to Rs. 1,56,968 during the year. **Capital Account.**

**353.** The reconstruction of the Khunti nala syphon, a new boulder mattress apron to the head regulator, and some other works which were started last year were completed during the year under report. **Works completed.**

The following works were in progress :—

(1) The Bhora aqueduct at mile 451,120 ft.

(2) A syphon in the 36th mile for the Bela Babu's " pain ".

(3) Rangi distributary.

**354.** The estimate for an escape syphon at Pandai in the 49th mile was nearly completed and materials were collected. **Works in progress.**

**355.** A sum of Rs. 33,196 was spent on Extensions and Improvements. Of this amount about Rs. 18,000 was spent on the Khunti syphon and the balance on certain quarters and other small works. **Revenue Account, *Extensions and Improvements.***

**356.** The cost of ordinary maintenance of the canal including silt clearance and repairs to syphons and distributaries amount to Rs. 1,00,612. **Maintenance and repairs.**

**357.** The construction of the Rangi distributary at the tail end of the Canal, the only one remaining incomplete, was in progress. Some 23 masonry works were built and the earthwork carried out for 11 miles during the year. **Distributaries and village Channels.**

Projects for village channels which are to be constructed as part of the Tribeni Canal project, were being prepared in connection with one of the distributaries, two estimates were sanctioned and arrangements made for acquiring the necessary land.

**358.** The rainfall was satisfactory at the beginning of the irrigation season, but the serious drought which occurred in September and October resulted in a keen demand for water which the canal failed to cope with adequately in the lower reaches. The total average rainfall of six stations during the year was 83·05 inches against the average of 74·76 inches for the last 8 years, but it was badly distributed. **Rainfall.**

**359.** Floods in the river Gandak were normal the highest flood level during the year being 970·25 or 7·70 below the highest recorded level (1902). The canal was opened for irrigation on the 16th June. **Floods.**

Irrigation.

**360.** The total area irrigated was 57,454 acres compared with 58,801 acres of the previous year and an average of 46,999 acres of the past three years.

Financial results.

**361.** The total working expenses (direct and indirect charges) amounted to Rs. 2,87,137 while the gross receipts were Rs. 1,28,185 against Rs. 1,15,565 of the previous year. The nett loss to Government was therefore Rs. 1,58,952 against Rs. 1,50,747 of the previous year. It is an expensive canal to maintain owing to silt difficulties, the heavy growth of jungle grass and its liability to attack by very heavy local floods. Its bed gradient is too low to allow of a silt carrying velocity and it crosses drainage off the hills for a length of some sixty miles.

Tribeni Canal Extension scheme.

**362.** The project for the proposed extension of the Tribeni Canal was under preparation.

## Dhaka Canal.

Capital Account.

**363.** There was no capital expenditure on the Canal during the year under review.

Revenue account—Extension and Improvements.

**364.** A total sum of Rs. 2,426 was spent on some small works.

Maintenance and Repairs.

**365.** A sum of Rs. 9,102 was spent on the construction of a spur at the head sluice and on ordinary maintenance of the Canal.

Rainfall.

**366.** The total rainfall was 56·43 inches against the average of 55.94 inches for the last 13 years. The demand for canal water was high in September and October when there was severe drought.

Irrigation.

**367.** Owing to this there was some increase in the area that came under irrigation. The total area irrigated was 8,846 acres against the average of 5,708 acres for the last 3 years.

Financial Results.

**368.** The gross receipts and working expenses of the year amounted to Rs. 22,137 and Rs. 24,176 respectively against Rs. 15,516 and Rs. 29,145 respectively of the previous year. The nett loss to Government after paying off the working expenses was Rs. 2,039. The long lease system has been introduced on this canal also.

## Minor works and Navigation.

*Works for which neither Capital nor Revenue Accounts are kept.*

The Teur (Madhuban) Canal.

**369.** This small canal was maintained in good order and only the necessary repairs to the regulator, bridges and bungalows were carried out at a total cost of Rs. 1,551 (excluding Establishment charges).

The rainfall of the year was 73·70 inches against the average of 54·74 inches for the last 19 years. The demand for canal water increased in September and October when there was no rain. The total area irrigated during the year was 2,001 acres against 1,727 acres of the previous year. The total receipts of the year amounted to Rs. 4,789 against Rs. 3,089 of the previous year.

*Works for which Capital and Revenue Accounts are kept.*

The Saran Canals.

**370.** The canals are closed to irrigation. The proposal to abandon the canals altogether has been given up but they are being transferred to the head "Minor Works for which neither Capital nor Revenue Accounts are kept". The maintenance charges amounted to Rs. 446 exclusive of the cost of Establishment.

*Western Circle.*

Preliminary investigations.

**371.** A survey was started in connection with a tank project at Khunta in the Singhbhum District and observation of discharges of the Roro river was taken up for this purpose.

## EMBANKMENT AND DRAINAGE.

[The Embankment and Drainage Report for the year 1918-19.]

**372.** The embankments are divided into four classes :— **Classification of embankments.**

(*a*) Embankments maintained at the expense of Government—

(i) In Orissa,

(ii) Under Schedule D.

(*b*) Embankments not Government property but maintained by Government under the contract system.

(*c*) Embankments not Government property but maintained by Government officers and public embankments under the provisions of sections 47-58 of Act II (B. C.) of 1882.

**373.** The expenditure on works and repairs during the year (exclusive of the book charges on Establishment, Tools and Plant) amounted to Rs. 1,74,362 against Rs. 89,784 in the preceding year. **Expenditure.**

**374.** The total length of embankments of all classes maintained by Government in the province during the year was 814 miles 2,550 feet protecting an area of 7,398·949 square miles. There was a net increase of 1,972 feet in the length of embankments in the Cuttack district owing to the closing of the Panu Panda and Kali Misra Ghais on the right bank of the Chitratola and a net decrease of 4 miles 4,151 feet in the Gandak Circle owing to the abandonment of the last 4 miles 2,862 feet of the Gupta Bandh, the exclusion of 628 feet of cross bandhs and the abandoned portion, namely, 667 feet of the old Daudpur Embankment. **Length of Embankments.**

**375.** During the year under review high floods in the Orissa rivers occurred only in the Mahanadi and its branch, the Katjuri, some rivers of the Puri district and the Burabalong. No damage to crops was reported. There was a high flood in the Chandan river on the 14th August 1918, the flood water rising to 10 inches below the crest of the lower portion of the embankment. Though the embankment stood well against it, a portion of the river bank was eroded. The high flood (Kosi river) in the Madhipura Public Works Department embankment and the Bhagalpur Road embankment was only 0·4 feet lower than the maximum high flood level yet recorded. The Public Works Department embankment stood well, but a portion of the Road embankment measuring 395 feet only was eroded. Another portion of the road embankment measuring 1,100 feet long, was also scoured away. A flood in the Panar river in the Purnea district damaged the spurs, the outer half of one of them being carried away by the current. The Ganges flood was comparatively low which enabled the sluices to carry the drainage of the capital area at Patna. The portion on the south of the East Indian Railway was however, completely flooded by heavy rain. **Floods.**

In the Gandak Circle, the floods were of an ordinary nature, the highest flood levels of the rivers being considerably under previous records, except in the river Gandak which rose higher than it did in the previous year, at Bhawanipur, Siswa Head Sluice and Baya, but at Sarangpur and Chhuttiah, the gauge reading stood at exactly the same figures as in 1917-18.

**376.** Several breaches occurred in the Bhargavi, Naya Nadi (left) Sonamukhi and Dhauria, class B Embankments in the Orissa Circle. Besides these there were three other breaches in the Mahanadi Division. The lower portion of the embankment No. 83-B at Khanagar (Cuttack) was slightly damaged owing to some slips. The new revetment at Bogla Groynes was also washed away. **Breaches.**

In the Gandak Circle, there were no serious breaches in or damage to any of the embankments with the exception of the following.

The Tirhut embankment in the 33½ mile was cut by the villagers to drain the flooded area, but the damage was very slight.

The Saran embankment was eroded and encroached upon by the river in Mangerpal Charki. This has been protected by tree spurs.

The Champaran embankment was seriously threatened at village Bariya where the embankment crosses the Lalbegia nala. At the end of September 1918,

the cutting of the river recommenced very badly at this place. Two spurs were constructed above and below this nala during the year to stem the current.

The Sota in the 64th mile of the Sangrampur Embankment opposite the spurs silted up somewhat. The spurs were slightly damaged but successfully checked the further progress of the river.

At Duboulia, the river continued to encroach upon the banks between the 72nd and 73rd miles and one of the two spurs completed during the year, was broken. The big gap known as the Husaini gap continued to pass flood water, but this was not attended with any serious consequence. The flood water entering the country through the breaches in the abandoned portion of the Gupta bandh below the 10th mile caused damage to some crops.

**Surveys and Investigations.**

**377.** In the Orissa Circle, surveys and investigations in connection with an irrigation by a channel from Paradia sluice in the Nayanadi to Satpara in the Puri district, were completed during the year, but the project has been abandoned as after comparing the levels of the count it was found that the proposed irrigation channel would not serve the purpose.

In the Gandak Circle, surveys in connection with the extension of the Gupta bandh from 0 mile to Gurara and from 9½ mile to a point near the Railway Station Lakho was nearly completed at the close of the year.

**Original works.**

**378.** The total outlay on original works amounted to Rs. 72,171 against Rs 43,196 of the previous year. Of the total sum Rs. 40,867 were spent in the Orissa Circle. The expenditure in the Eastern Circle was Rs. 6,217 and the remaining Rs. 25,087 were expended in the Gandak Circle.

In the Orissa Circle the sum mentioned was spent in (1) raising of the crest of the Utikan embankment, (2) closing Panu Panda and Kali Misra Ghais, (3) constructing an embankment connecting the embankments Nos. 6 and 7 (*a*) class B on the left bank of the Kharsua river, (4) constructing a rest-shed at Singpur on the left bank of the Kharsua river and (5) constructing Executive Engineer's office building at Cuttack.

There was a proposal to take over the Gogri bandh in the Monghyr district as a public embankment under the Bengal Act II, of 1882. Proceedings were in progress and a sum of Rs. 13,800 was allotted for expenditure on raising and improving the bandh in 1918-19.

**Repairs.**

**379.** The total amount expended on repairs was Rs. 1,02,191 against Rs. 80,400 in the preceding year. Of this Rs. 36,257 was spent in the Orissa Circle, Rs. 83,268 in the Gandak Circle, and Rs. 2,666 in the Eastern Circle.

The amount spent on ordinary maintenance and special repairs to the Gandak Takavi embankments under contract was Rs. 32,861 exclusive of the percentage charges for Establishment, Tools and Plant against Rs. 35,017 in the preceding year.

No new retired lines were constructed on any of the embankments during the year under review. Some new spurs were constructed on the Tirhut embankment to arrest further attacks of the river. The two spurs in the 47th mile of the Champaran embankment which were in progress when the year ended and the three spurs at Duboulia were finally completed during the year under report.

**Drainage.**

**380.** In the Gandak Circle the 12 vent sluices at Deosar in the 3rd mile of the Tirhut embankment which were reported in the previous year as completed collapsed during the year under report owing to their foundation being undermined by swirls of the up-stream side.

The scheme for constructing an embankment and a sluice to prevent flood water from entering the Pembaranda Chaur in the district of Darbhanga has been finally completed during the year under report.

There are no drainage works in this province constructed under the Bengal Drainage, Sanitary Drainage or Embankment Act excepting a small scheme known as the Rajmahal Drainage Scheme completed in 1902 and maintained by the Civil officers under the Bengal Drainage Act VI, of 1880.

# CHAPTER V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

## Imperial Revenue and Finance.

**381.** The following statement shows the Imperial revenue and expenditure for the year 1918-19 compared with the figures for 1917-18:— Imperial receipts and expenditure.

RECEIPTS.

**Figures are in thousands of rupees.**

| Major heads. | Actuals 1917-18. | Actuals 1918-19. | Increase. | Decrease. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. |
| I. Land Revenue ... ... | 72,42 | 73,76 | 1,34 | ... |
| II. Opium ... ... ... | 4,71 | 5,30 | 59 | ... |
| III. Salt ... ... ... | ... | 1 | 1 | ... |
| IV. Stamps ... ... ... | 37,40 | 37,09 | ... | 31 |
| V. Excise ... ... ... | 29,56 | 30,98 | 1,42 | ... |
| VII. Customs... ... ... | 1 | 1 | ... | ... |
| VIII. Income-tax ... ... | 13,10 | 16,03 | 2,93 | ... |
| XI. Tributes ... ... | 85 | 85 | ... | ... |
| XII. Contracts ... ... | 2 | 2 | ... | ... |
| XXII. Receipts in aid of superannuation | 80 | 72 | ... | 8 |
| XXV. Miscellaneous ... ... | 5 | 5 | ... | ... |
| XXIX. Irrigation, Major Works—Public Works Department. | 13,13 | 13,67 | 54 | ... |
| XXX. Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation— | | | | |
| (1) By Civil Department. ... | 27 | 24 | ... | 3 |
| (2) By Public Works Department ... | 11 | 12 | 1 | ... |
| XXXI. Civil Works ... ... | 65 | 25 | ... | 40 |
| Transfers from Imperial to Provincial Revenues. | —46,18 | —53,28 | ... | 7,10 |
| Total ... | 1,26,90 | 1,25,82 | 6,84 | 7,92 |

## EXPENDITURE.

**Figures are in thousands of rupees.**

| Major heads. | 1917-18. | 1918-19. | Increase. | Decrease. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. |
| 1. Refunds and Drawbacks ... ... | 42 | 59 | 17 | ... |
| 2. Assignments and Compensation ... | 55 | 49 | ... | 6 |
| 3. Land Revenue ... ... | 8,57 | 7,69 | ... | 88 |
| 5. Salt ... ... ... | 77 | 77 | ... | ... |
| 6. Stamps ... ... ... | 1,05 | 1,12 | 7 | ... |
| 7. Excise ... ... ... | 1,47 | 1,60 | 13 | ... |
| 9. Customs ... ... ... | 15 | 15 | ... | ... |
| 10. Income Tax ... ... ... | 23 | 23 | ... | ... |
| 14. Interest on other obligations ... | 1,40 | 1,42 | 2 | ... |
| 18. General Administration ... ... | 2,74 | 2,57 | ... | 17 |
| 23. Ecclesiastical ... ... ... | 39 | 37 | ... | 2 |
| 27. Territorial and Political pensions ... | 74 | 55 | ... | 19 |
| 28. Civil Furlough and absentee allowances | 3 | 11 | 8 | ... |
| 29. Superannuation allowances and pensions | 3 | 3 | ... | ... |
| 30. Stationery and Printing ... ... | 9 | 38 | 29 | ... |
| 32. Miscellaneous ... ... ... | 44 | 33 | ... | 11 |
| 33. Famine Relief ... ... | 14 | 57 | 43 | ... |
| 35. Construction of Protective Irrigation Works. | 1,07 | 1,33 | 26 | ... |
| 42. Irrigation—Major Works (working Expenses). | 7,61 | 7,17 | ... | 44 |
| 43. Irrigation—Interest on Debt ... | 11,98 | 12,06 | 8 | ... |
| 43. Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation— | | | | |
| (1) By Civil Department ... | 2 | 2 | ... | ... |
| (2) By Public Works Department ... | 92 | 1,44 | 52 | ... |
| 45. Civil Works—Public Works Department | 2,46 | 3,62 | 1,16 | ... |
| 49. Outlay on Irrigation Works ... | —1 | —4 | —3 | ... |
| Total ... ... | 43,26 | 44,57 | 3,18 | 1,87 |

*Receipts*—There was a not decrease of 103 compared with the actuals for 1917-18 which was due mainly to larger contributions from Imperial to Provincial revenues, e.g., for agricultural, technical aud primary education, for improving the health condition of pilgrim centres and for the lunatic asylum at Ranchi.

The chief increases were under Land Revenue (1,34), Opium (59), Excise (1,42), and Income Tax (2,39). The increase under Land Revenue was due to the collection of arrears of 1917-18 during the year under report which was necessitated by the closing of treasuries during the holidays at the end of March 1918. The increase under opium was due to the increase in the cost price from Rs. 11 to Rs. 13 per seer.

The improvement in excise receipts was due to the enhanced rate of the duty on opium and the extension of the contract distillery area and that under income tax to the levy of super tax and to the enhanced rates of taxation.

*Expenditure.*—There was a net increase of 131 in expenditure compared with 1917-18. The large increase under Buildings—Civil Works was due to increased expenditure on original works while the decrease under Land Revenue was due to shorter expenditure on Survey and Settlement.

## Land Revenue.

[*See* Chapter II of the Report.]

## Canal Revenue.

[*See* Chapter IV of the Report—Canals.]

## Sources of Revenue other than land.

## Customs.

[Report on the Maritime Trade of Bihar and Orissa for the year 1918-19.]

**382.** The reveuue realized during the year amounted to Rs. 705 against Rs. 1,262 in 1917-18. The decrease is reported to be due to the restrictions on the export of local produce. There were no transactions of salt imported under bond in the warehouses at Chandbali. **Customs Revenue.**

No refunds were granted.

**383.** In Balasore there were eight prosecutions. A sum of Rs. 26 was realized in fines against Rs. 50 in 1917-18. **Breach of Customs Laws.**

**384.** No proceedings were taken under the Act in any of the districts of the Province. **Indian Merchandise Marks Act.**

## Salt.

**385.** As in the preceeding years no Liverpool Salt was imported into either of the bonded warehouses at Chandbali. Duty paid salt was imported by rail from Calcutta. **Import.**

Northern India Salt continued to be imported by District Boards and Municipalities or by contractors appointed by them who agreed to sell salt at fixed prices and to whose indents priority was given.

**386.** The quantity of salt consumed in the Province was about 5,196,667 maunds. The average consumption per head of population was about six seers. The average wholesale price per maund was Rs. 3-12-6 against Rs. 4-2-0 in 1917-18. **Consumption and prices.**

**387.** The total number of offences against the Salt laws reported during 1918-19 was 5 against 323 in the previous year. All the reported cases related to the district of Balasore. The absence of cases in the districts of Cuttack and Puri is attributed to the prohibition of prosecutions for petty offences. **Preventive measures.**

There was no occasion for deputation of special Head Constables during the year.

Trade in saltpetre.

**388.** The number of saltpetre refineries in Bihar was 253 against 244 in the previous year. The quantity of crude saltpetre dissolved was 330,279 maunds and that of refined saltpetre produced was 207,453 maunds against 353,867 maunds and 240,607 maunds respectively, in the previous year. The quantity of salt produced in the manufacture and refinement of saltpetre was 30,133 maunds out of which 28,611 maunds were removed on payment of duty.

## Excise.

[Report on the Administration of the Excise Department, Bihar and Orissa for 1918-19.]

Administrative Changes.

**389.** The principal administrative changes which took place during the year were :—

(1) The extension of the contract supply system to the districts of Hazaribagh and Ranchi.

(2) The revision of the maximum prices for the retail sale of country spirit in the districts of Muzaffarpur, Hazaribagh, Ranchi and Manbhum.

(3) The increase of the minimum price of country spirit in the colliery area of the Dhanbad subdivision in Manbhum.

(4) The increase of the rate of duty on country spirit in the area in the Dhanbad subdivision served by the two shops, Amalkhori and Dandatanr, to the level obtaining in the colliery area of the subdivision.

(5) The enhancement of the treasury price of opium throughout the province.

Staff and organization.

**390.** The necessity for strict economy prevented Government from giving further effect to the Excise Re-organization Scheme.

Legislation.

**391.** The Bihar and Orissa Excise Act, II of 1915, and Opium Act, I of 1878, continued in force. The new statutory rules framed by the Local Government under the Bihar and Orissa Excise Act, II of 1915, came into force from the 15th January 1919.

Local Advisory Committees.

**392.** Advisory Committees were convened twice during the year for all municipal towns and for the rural areas of the Chota Nagpur Division. The following were among the more important subjects discussed at the meetings of July 1918 :—

(*i*) The settlement of Excise licenses with traders at fixed fees.

(*ii*) The introduction of a system of selling country spirit in sealed and corked bottles.

(*iii*) The grant of licenses for the preparation of Indian medicines containing alcohol.

(*iv*) The fixation of the hours of the sale in *tari* shops as in country spirit shops.

(*v*) The co-operation of Municipal Commissioners, Members of the District Boards, and Medical Practitioners in stamping out the cocaine habit.

(*vi*) The steps to be taken to check effectively the smuggling of opium and cocaine.

(*vii*) The fixation of the maximum retail price of opium.

(*viii*) The prevention of adulteration of liquor.

(*ix*) The discouragement of the consumption of *tari* on the premises of shops.

(*x*) The teaching of temperance in primary schools.

(*xi*) The increase in the rate of duty on *ganja*.

The separate Excise Advisory Committee for the Jharia Mining area which was constituted for the first time in December 1917 continued during the year under report. It is reported that this Advisory Committee was of the greatest assistance in removing insanitary conditions in the liquor shops and in the attempt to control the consumption of spirit by labourers in the collieries.

Committees were again convened in December 1918 both for municipalities throughout the Province and for the rural areas of the Chota Nagpur Division to advise on the settlement proposals for 1919-20 and in deference to their recommendations 4 country liquor shops and 4 *pachwai* shops were abolished ; and the sites of 12 *tari* shops, 8 country liquor shops, 2 *pachwai* shops, 2 *ganja* shops, one opium shop and one outstill were changed ; 1 country liquor shop and 3 *pachwai* shops were opened and one *tari* shop was screened from public view.

**393.** The settlement resulted in a total decrease of Rs. 9,08,080 which is due mainly to the enhancement of the duty on country spirit and *ganja* with effect from the 1st April 1919 and to the effects of the prevalent scarcity. **Results of Settlements.**

**394.** The total excise revenue of the year amounted to about 124 lakhs of rupees, an increase of about 6 lakhs. The increase was shared by every head except foreign liquor and cocaine. The incidence of excise revenue was five annas and eight pies per head of the population against five annas and six pies in the preceding year. **Revenue.**

**395.** The total revenue under the contract supply system amounted to Rs. 54,37,164 against Rs. 46,40,062 while the revenue from outstills amounted to Rs. 7,83,754 against Rs. 12,23,993 in the previous year. There was an increase in consumption amounting to 202,856 gallons or 18·9 per cent. which was due chiefly to the extension of the contract area. **Country Spirit.**

The number of licences for the retail sale of country spirit (contract and outstill) was reduced from 1,904 to 1,875.

**396.** The rates of duty on country spirit remained unaltered except in the area served by the two shops, Amalkhori and Dandatanr in the Dhanbad subdivision of Manbhum, where the rates were raised to the level obtaining in the Dhanbad subdivision generally. **Revision of rates of duty.**

**397.** The revenue derived from *tari* rose from Rs. 14,94,311 to Rs. 15,19,848. The total number of licences for the retail sale of fermented *tari* was 5,775 against 5,873 in 1917-18. ***Tari.***

**398.** Licence fees for the retail sale and home brewing of *pachwai* brought in Rs. 1,78,127 against Rs. 1,55,767 in 1917-18. The total number of licenses issued for retail sale of *pachwai* was 364 against 344 in 1917-18. ***Pachwai.***

**399.** Foreign liquors do not play an important part in the Excise administration of Bihar and Orissa. The revenue derived from license fees in 1918-19 amounted to Rs. 34,369 against Rs. 37,065 in 1917-18. **Foreign liquor.**

**400.** There was an increase of 65 maunds in the quantity of *ganja* consumed in the Province which was accompanied by an increase in the revenue from Rs. 24,64,883 to Rs. 25,05,072 and which is due mainly to the lower wholesale price prevailing at Naugaon. ***Ganja.***

The number of licences for the retail sale of *ganja* decreased from 1,249 to 1,241.

**401.** The total consumption of *bhang* in the Province rose from 456 maunds to 477 maunds and the revenue from duty and licence fees amounted to Rs. 55,578 against Rs. 53,391. The number of licences issued for the retail sale of *bhang* was 281 against 284 in 1917-18. ***Bhang.***

**402.** The revenue from *charas* was only Rs. 340. ***Charas***

**403.** The total quantity of opium consumed within the Province fell from 850 maunds to 818 maunds while the revenue increased from Rs. 17,28,463 to Rs. 18,45,620. **Opium.**

The decrease in consumption was due to the enhancement of the treasury prices of the drug from the 1st April 1918, the vigilance of the Excise preventive staff and the settlement of licences with reliable persons.

The total number of licenses issued for the retail sale of opium was 548.

Cocaine.

**404.** The number of persons convicted of illicit sale or possesion of cocaine was 11 against 35 in 1917-18. The habit of using cocaine is slowly declining on account of the scarcity and prohibitive price of the drug and the vigilance of the special staff has to a great extent stopped smuggling. The total quantity of cocaine seized during the year was 4 ounces 8 drams and 19 grains of which 2 ounces and 5 drams were found pure and the rest impure.

Excise offences.

**405.** 1,811 persons were prosecuted for offences against the Excise and Opium Acts against 1,730 in the preceding year.

The total number of persons convicted was 1,604 against 1,498 in the preceding year. The percentage of convictions to arrests was 88·5 against 86·5. The number of persons imprisoned for offences against the Excise and Opium Laws was 616 against 523 in the preceding year.

The total number of fines imposed was Rs. 26,206-8-0 against Rs. 28,859-8-0 in the preceding year.

## Stamps.

Revenue.

**406.** The revenue under the Stamp and Court Fees Act amounted to Rs. 73,56,244 against Rs. 74,23,480 in the preceding year. There was a decrease of Rs. 1,55,129 under judicial stamps and an increase of Rs. 87,893 under non-judicial stamps.

Judicial stamps.

**407.** The decrease of Rs. 1,55,129 under this head was shared by all the Divisions except Chota Nagpur, where there was a slight increase of Rs. 7,526. The main cause of the decrease was a diminution in the number of suits instituted.

Non-Judicial stamps.

**408.** The increase in the income from the sale of non-judicial stamps occurred in all the Divisions, and was due mainly to the execution of an abnormally large number of mortgage and sale deeds on account of the rise in the price of food-stuffs and commodities and the prevailing distress.

Sale of stamps.

**409.** The number of stamp vendors was reduced from 1,155 to 1,151. There was, however, an increase of Rs. 3,267 in the discount allowed to stamp vendors.

The cases in which Civil Courts levied deficit duty and penalty numbered 1,222 against 1,192 in the preceding year with a decrease of Rs. 838 in the amount of duty and penalty. The number of cases decided by Revenue Officers increased by 36 and there was an increase of Rs. 2,680 in the duty and penalty realized.

Prosecutions under the Stamp Act.

**410.** The number of prosecutions instituted fell from 67 to 31. A large increase both in the number of cases instituted and in the amount of the fines levied occured in Cuttack. There were no prosecutions in any of the districts of the Patna, Tirhut and Chota Nagpur Divisions. Of the 56 persons brought to trial, 38 were convicted, the fines imposed amounting to Rs. 279 against Rs. 406 in the preceding year.

Working of section 19-H of the Court Fees Act.

**411.** The number of cases in which enquiries were instituted fell from 136 to 128, the number of enquiries completed during the year rose from 98 to 113 with a corresponding increase of deficit duty from Rs. 8,051 to Rs. 11,955.

## Income-tax.

Laws.

**412.** The Income-Tax Act, VII of 1918, came into force on the 1st April 1918, practically recasting the whole of the Indian Income Tax Act, II of 1886. The procedure of the new Act is more elaborate and complicated and until the officers who administer it and the public have become more familiar with its provisions its full effect in increasing the revenue can not be judged.

Collections.

**413.** The total collections (Rs. 23,27,496) in respect of the year's assessment showed an increase of Rs. 97,207 or 4·3 per cent. over the collections (Rs. 22,30,289) of the preceding year. This amount is, however, liable to change when adjustments under section 19 of the Income Tax Act, 1918, are completed.

Assessment.

**414.** The total number of assessees was 19,467 and the estimated demand of the tax was Rs. 19,03,661. The figures are not, however, accurate as some of the District Officers did not understand the new returns and omitted from their statements tax on Government salaries and interest on securities.

Super Tax.

**415.** There were only 34 assessees under the Super Tax Act against 31 in the preceding year, and the tax realized from them amounted to Rs. 4,49,070 against Rs. 2,03,728 in the preceding year.

## Forest Revenue.

[See Chapter IV of the report.]

## Provincial Finance.

Receipts and expenditure.

**416.** The following statement shows the actual receipts and charges on account of Provincial Services for 1918-19 compared with those of 1917-18: —

**Figures are in thousands of rupees.**

*Receipts.*

| Major heads. | Actuals 1917-18. | Actuals 1918-19. | Actuals, 1918-19, better (+) or worse (—) than 1917-18. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
| | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. |
| *Principal Heads of Revenue—* | | | | |
| I.—Land Revenue ... ... | 84,54 | 89,61 | +5,07 | ... |
| IV.—Stamps ... ... | 37,40 | 37,09 | ... | —31 |
| V.—Excise ... ... | 88,67 | 92,94 | +4,27 | ... |
| VI.—Provincial Rates... ... | 78 | 95 | +17 | ... |
| VIII.—Income Tax ... ... | 10,83 | 1,60 | +77 | ... |
| IX.—Forests ... ... | 7,54 | 9,45 | +1,91 | ... |
| X.—Registration ... ... | 6,68 | 6,85 | +17 | ... |
| Total ... ... | 2,36,44 | 2,48,49 | +12,36 | —31 |
| XII.—Interest ... ... | 1,57 | 1,26 | ... | —31 |
| *Receipts by Civil Departments—* | | | | |
| XVA.—Law and Justice Courts ... | 3,67 | 3,52 | ... | —15 |
| XVIB.—Jails ... ... | 7,10 | 9,77 | +2,67 | ... |
| XVII.—Police ... ... | 91 | 7,57 | +6,66 | ... |
| XIX.—Education ... ... | 3,71 | 3,76 | +5 | ... |
| XXA.—Medical ... ... | 47 | 80 | +33 | ... |
| XXB.—Sanitation ... ... | 17 | 18 | +1 | ... |
| XXIA.—Agriculture ... ... | 34 | 69 | +35 | ... |
| XXIB.—Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments. | 1 | 1 | ... | ... |
| Total ... ... | 16,38 | 26,30 | +10,07 | —15 |

| Major heads. | Actuals 1917-18. | Actuals 1918-19. | Actuals, 1918-19, better (+) or worse (—) than 1917-18. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
| | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. |
| *Miscellaneous.*— | | | | |
| XXII.—Receipts in aid of superannuation. | 45 | 48 | +3 | ... |
| XXIII.—Stationery and Printing ... | 39 | 41 | +2 | ... |
| XXV.—Miscellaneous ... ... | 3,37 | 1,98 | ... | —139 |
| Total ... | 4,21 | 2,87 | +5 | —139 |
| *Irrigation.*— | | | | |
| XXIX.—Major Works—Direct Receipts —Public Works Department. | 13,13 | 13,67 | +54 | ... |
| XXX.—Minor Works and Navigation— | | | | |
| (*a*) Civil ... ... ... | 26 | 24 | ... | —2 |
| (*b*) Public Works Department ... | 11 | 12 | +1 | ... |
| Total ... | 13,50 | 14,03 | +55 | —2 |
| *Public Works*— | | | | |
| XXXI.—Civil Works— | | | | |
| Civil ... ... | 1,05 | 1,15 | +10 | ... |
| Public Works Department ... | 3,74 | 3,89 | +15 | ... |
| Total ... | 4,79 | 5,04 | +26 | ... |
| Transfers between Imperial and Provincial Revenues. | 46,18 | 53,28 | +710 | ... |
| Grand total ... | 3,23,07 | 3,51,27 | +28,20 | ... |

## EXPENDITURE.

| Major heads. | Actuals, 1917-18. | Actuals, 1918-19. | Actual, 1918-19, better (+) or worse (—) than 1917-18. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
| *Direct demands on the Revenue*— | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. |
| 1. Refunds and drawbacks ... | 47 | 75 | ... | —28 |
| 2. Assignments and compensations ... | 51 | 45 | +6 | ... |
| Total ... | 98 | 1,20 | +6 | —28 |

| Major heads. | Actuals, 1917-18. | Actuals, 1918-19. | Actuals, 1918-19 better (+) or worse (—) than 1917-18. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
| *Charges in respect of collections*— | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. |
| 3. Land Revenue ... ... | 23,73 | 23,58 | +15 | ... |
| 6. Stamps ... ... ... | 1,05 | 1,12 | ... | —7 |
| 7. Excise ... ... ... | 4,40 | 4,81 | ... | —41 |
| 8. Provincial Rates ... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 10. Income-tax ... ... | 23 | 23 | ... | ... |
| 11. Forests ... ... | 3,91 | 4,31 | ... | —40 |
| 12. Registration ... ... | 3,77 | 3,98 | ... | —21 |
| Total ... | 37,09 | 38,03 | +15 | —1,09 |
| 13. Interest on ordinary debt ... | 1,13 | 1,10 | +3 | ... |
| *Salaries and expenses of Civil Department*— | | | | |
| 18. General Administration ... | 13,94 | 14,40 | ... | —46 |
| 19A. Law and Justice—Courts ... | 42,62 | 42,36 | +26 | ... |
| 19B. Law and Justice—Jails ... | 16,08 | 22,19 | ... | —6,11 |
| 20. Police ... ... ... | 49,24 | 53,81 | ... | —4,57 |
| 21. Ports and Pilotage ... ... | 5 | 6 | ... | —1 |
| 22. Education ... ... | 40,32 | 44,45 | ... | —4,13 |
| 24A. Medical ... ... | 7,60 | 9,04 | ... | —1,44 |
| 24B. Sanitation ... ... | 2,42 | 3,70 | ... | —1,28 |
| 25. Political ... ... | 59 | 55 | +4 | ... |
| 26A. Agriculture ... ... | 6,01 | 6,29 | ... | —28 |
| 26B. Scientific and Miscellaneous departments. | 41 | 71 | ... | —30 |
| Total ... | 1,79,28 | 1,97,57 | +30 | —18,58 |
| *Miscellaneous Civil Charges*— | | | | |
| 29. Superannuation allowances and pensions. | 9,92 | 10,39 | ... | —47 |
| 30. Stationery and printing ... | 6,98 | 6,00 | +98 | ... |
| 32. Miscellaneous ... | 1,84 | 1,87 | ... | —3 |
| Total ... | 18,74 | 18,26 | +98 | —50 |

| Major heads. | Actuals 1917-18. | Actuals 1918-19. | Actuals, 1918-19 better (+) and worse (—) than 1917-18. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
| | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. |
| *Famine Relief Insurance*— | | | | |
| 33. Famine Relief ... .... | 5 | 19 | ... | —14 |
| 36. Reduction or avoidance of debt ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Total ... | 5 | 19 | ... | —14 |
| *Irrigation*— | | | | |
| 42. Irrigation Major works— | | | | |
| (*a*) Working Expenses ... | 7,61 | 7,17 | +44 | ... |
| (*b*) Interest on debt ... | 9,00 | 9,02 | ... | —2 |
| 43. Minor works and Navigation— | | | | |
| (*a*) Civil ... ... | 2 | 2 | ... | ... |
| (*b*) Public Works Department ... | 92 | 1,44 | ... | —52 |
| Total ... | 17,55 | 17,65 | +44 | —54 |
| *Other Public Works*— | | | | |
| 45. Civil Works— | | | | |
| (*a*) Civil ... ... | 13,64 | 16,01 | ... | —2,35 |
| (*b*) Public Works Department ... | 61,65 | 49,40 | +12,25 | ... |
| Total ... | 75,29 | 65,41 | +12,25 | —2,35 |
| Total Expenditure. ... | 3,30,11 | 3,39,41 | ... | —9,30 |

*Receipts.*—There was a net increase of 28,20 compared with 1917-18: The chief increases were under Land Revenue (5,07), Excise (4,27), Income-Tax (77), Forests (1,91), Jails (2,67), Police (6,66), and Transfers between Imperial and Provincial (7,10). The increase in Land Revenue was due to the fact that collections in 1917-18 were about six lakhs below the normal owing to the closing of treasuries during the holidays at the end of March 1918, the deficit being made good in 1918-19. The improvement in Excise receipts was due to the enhancement of the duty on opium and the extension of the contract supply system, that under Jails was due to the rise in the price of raw materials which was realized from the purchasers of manufactured products. The increase under Income-Tax was due to the enhanced rates of taxation. Contracts with the military department account for the growth of receipts from forests. The large increase under Police was due to the recoveries of the cost of the additional Police quartered in the areas responsible for the *Bakr-id* disturbance. The increase under the head "Transfers between Imperial aud Provincial revenues" was due to larger contibutions from Imperial revenues.

*Expenditure.*—Compared with the expenditure in 1917-18 there was a net increase of 9,30. The chief increases were under Jails (6,11), Police (4,58), Education (4,13), Medical (1,44), Sanitation (1,28), and 45-Civil Works—Civil (2,35). The increase under Jails was due to the continued rise in the price of raw materials and of food grains, that under Police was due to the expenditure on the additional Police in Shahabad. Larger expenditure on the Patna University, Government Colleges and Secondary schools account for the increase under Education. Moreover a recurring grant of 3,00 was sanctioned by the Government of India during the year, which was expended on primary education. The increase under "Medical" was due to increased expenditure on the Ranchi European Lunatic Asylum and the provincialization of the Patna General Hospital; that under sanitation was due to expenditure from the grant of 1,00 for the improvement of the health condition of pilgrim centres and also to expenditure in connection with the influenza epidemic. The increase under Civil Works was due to larger centributions sanctioned to local bodies.

The most noticeable decrease was under Stationery aud Printing (98) and Buildings—Public Works Department (12,25). The decrease under the former head was due to economy in the management of the Gaya Jail Press and under the latter to the postponement of a large number of works under the orders of the Government of India enjoining strict economy during the war.

## Local Finance.

**417.** The following table shows the income and expenditure and the opening and closing balances of local funds for the year 1918-19:—

Figures are in thousands of rupees.

| Name of Fund. | Opening balance on 1st April 1918. | Receipts during the year. | Total. | Expenditure during the year. | Balance. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. |
| District Funds ... ... | 22,81 | 92,68 | 1,15,49 | 88,37 | 27,12 |
| Union Funds ... ... | 11 | 49 | 60 | 45 | 15 |
| District Road Funds ... | 3,36 | 5,48 | 8,84 | 5,46 | 3,38 |
| District Chaukidari Reward Fund. | 27 | 34 | 61 | 28 | 33 |
| Chota Nagpur Chaukidari Fund | 1,62 | 5,42 | 7,04 | 5,16 | 1,88 |
| Road Patrol Fund ... | 24 | 36 | 60 | 37 | 23 |
| Pilgrim Lodging House Funds | 47 | 66 | 1,13 | 64 | 49 |
| Medical and Charitable Funds | 3 | 19 | 22 | 19 | 3 |
| Education Funds... ... | 3 | 4 | 7 | 4 | 3 |
| Town and Bazar Fund ... | ... | 12 | 12 | 11 | 1 |
| Cantonment Fund ... | 17 | 48 | 65 | 40 | 25 |
| Khondmal Road Fund ... | 1 | 6 | 7 | 6 | 1 |

| Name of Fund. | Opening balance on 1st April 1918. | Receipts during the year. | Total. | Expenditure during the year. | Balance. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. |
| Orissa Port Fund ... | 5 | 5 | 10 | 10 | ... |
| Jharia Water Board ... | 10,19 | 1,01 | 11,20 | 2,16 | 9,04 |
| Jharia Mines Board of Health | 47 | 89 | 1,36 | 94 | 42 |
| Municipal Funds ... | 7,72 | 24,65 | 32,37 | 21,78 | 10,59 |
| Medical Registration Fund ... | 6 | 7 | 13 | 9 | 4 |
| Medical Examination Fund ... | 3 | 20 | 23 | 16 | 7 |
| GRAND TOTAL ... | 47,64 | 1,33,19 | 1,80,83 | 1,26,76 | 54,07 |

## Local Cess.

[Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Province of Bihar and Orissa for the year 1918-1919.]

**Rate at which levied.**

**418.** Local cess was levied at the maximum rate of one anna in the rupee on the annual value of lands and the annual net profits of mines or other immovable property throughout the province, except in the districts of Angul, Sambalpur and the Damini-koh Government estate in the Santal Parganas where the Cess Act is not in force.

**Demands and collections.**

**419.** The gross cess bearing rental of the province shows a total increase of Rs. 27,47,507, the current cess demand for the year was increased from Rs. 58,50,067 to Rs. 60,37,092. This year, the increase of Rs. 1,87,025, was mainly due to the assessment and revision of assessment on mines, forests, etc., in Gaya, Hazaribagh, Manbhum and Singhbhum. The revaluation operations in Puri and the introduction of the Cess Act in to the Kolhan Government estate in Singhbhum. The actual collections increased to Rs. 59,86,988 from Rs. 56,21,842 in the previous year. The total remissions showed a decrease from Rs. 12,703 to Rs. 5,284. The percentage of total collections on the current demand increased from 96·09 to 99·17.

**Working of the Certificate Procedure.**

**420.** The total number of certificates filed for the realization of arrears rose from Rs. 53,590 to Rs. 57,352.

The total number of cases for disposal decreased from Rs. 67,671 in 1917-1918 to Rs. 66,759. Objections numbered 4,462 as compared with 4,381 in 1917-1918.

Certificates had to be cancelled in 545 cases owing either to the non-liability of judgment-debtors for the demand or to the payment of arrears before the issue of certificates. Demands were paid on the issue of preliminary notices in 11,849 cases. Notices for the sale of the defaulter's movable and immovable properties resulted in payments in 25,599 and 5,597 cases respectively; while in 842 cases recourse was had to actual sales. In 393 of these cases sales were set aside on redemption. Issue of warrants of attachment and of arrest proved effective in 13 and 349 cases respectively.

Valuations and revaluations.

**421.** General revaluation operations were in progress in the districts of Gaya and Darbhanga. The first valuation of the Kolhan Government estate was completed and resulted in a net addition of Rs. 23,238 to the cess demand of the district. In Saran revaluation operations undertaken by the Settlement Department under Chapter IIA of the Cess Act, were in progress. Revaluation operations in Hazaribagh by the same agency were completed during the year.

## Municipal Revenue.

[*See* Chapter III of the Report.]

# CHAPTER VI—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE.

## Vital Statistics.

[Report of the Sanitary Commissioner, Bihar and Orissa, for the year 1918—Statistics of British India, Part V—Areas, Population and Public Health.]

Climatic conditions.

**422.** The rainfall during the year was deficient. A long drought in July and a sudden cessation of the monsoon in the second half of September adversely affected the crops, especially the winter rice. Prices rose steadily during the last three months of the year, but the effect of the crop failure on the health of the people did not fully manifest itself until after the close of the year.

Vital statistics.

**423.** The birth rate was 37·5 per mille as compared with 40·4 in 1917 and 40·4 the average ratio of the previous five years. The death rate was 56·7 as compared with 35·2 in 1917 and 31·5 the average ratio for the last five years.

Registration of vital occurrences.

**424.** Registration of vital occurrences was admittedly deficient. In the 56 municipal towns where registration is compulsory the accuracy of 16,638 vital occurrences was investigated and 2,399 or 14·41 per cent of omissions were detected.

The experiment of testing vital statistics of the special selected area in Muzaffarpur Sadr thana was continued during the year. The results of the experiment show that the average recorded mortality during the last four years in this area has been 47·1 per 1,000. The rate recorded in 1917, when there was no special cause to raise it, was 51·5. As a much greater degree of accuracy was attained in registration in that year, probably the normal rate of mortality for this area and possibly for rural areas generally in Tirhut Division is about 50 per mille.

Cholera.

**425.** Cholera is reported to have been responsible for 205,584 deaths or 5·9 per mille as compared with 3·1 in 1917. More than half the total number of deaths occurred in Tirhut, the mortality being specially high in Darbhanga.

Fevers.

**426.** "Fevers" accounted for a mortality of 40· of which a large proportion may be ascribed to malaria. In the last quinquennium out of an average mortality of 31•5 per mille 20·0 deaths were ascribed to fevers.

A special campaign against malaria is being conducted at Katihar and Kishanganj. The Sanitary Commissioner reports that local prejudice against quinine is being gradually overcome and that people now actually ask for assistance in anti-mosquito operations. In the Katihar area the death rate from fever has fallen from 25·3 per mille in 1917 to 16·3 in 1918, although the rate for Purnea as a whole rose from 28·4 to 38·2. The campaign has however proved expensive and the Sanitary Commissioner is trying to evolve cheaper methods before attempting to extend them to a wider area.

Influenza.

**427.** The outstanding event of the year was the epidemic of influenza, which raged with great virulence throughout the province during the latter part of the year. Owing to the well known incapacity of the reporting agency to diagnose the causes of death, it was impossible to say exactly how many deaths occurred from this scourge, but it may be assumed that it was responsible for the increase of about 600,000 in the number of deaths ascribed to "fevers" during the last six months as compared with the corresponding months of the previous year. The actual mortality from influenza was probably even higher, for 44 per cent. of the total deaths of the year occurred during the three months when the epidemic was at its height.

**428.** Deaths from plague numbered 53,532 against 45,436 in 1917. In the last quinquennium out of an average mortality of 31·5 per mille 1·1 deaths were ascribed to plague. Patna Division suffered most from plague, the number of deaths being 32,022, or about 60 per cent of the total plague mortality. Tirhut Division followed next with 18,871 deaths, or about 35 per cent. Plague.

**429.** The ratio of mortality from dysentery and diarrhœa was 1·0 as compared with ·8 in 1917, which is also the average rate of the previous five years. Dysentery is endemic in the three districts of Puri, Cuttack and Sambalpur. Dysentery and Diarrhœa.

**430.** The rate of mortality from respiratory diseases was the same as that of the previous year (·2) and the average ratio of the last five years. The rate of mortality was higher in towns that in rural areas. Respiratory diseases.

## Inland Emigration.

**431.** No recruitment for Assam took place in the Tirhut Division, nor in the districts of Patna, Bhagalpur and Purnea. The Act is not in force in the district of Angul but its extension to that district is under the consideration of Government. Elsewhere the only legal form of recruitment is that conducted by garden sardars working under the control of local agents. Administrative measures.

The total number of emigrants recruited from the province during the year was 178,918 compared with 12,462 in 1917-18. This enormous increase is to be ascribed to the failure of the crops and to the prevailing high prices, and possibly also in a very minor degree to the cessation of recruitment for the Military Labour Corps.

An important change has been made this year in regularizing the recruitment of coolies in the Feudatory States of Bihar and Orissa. The model rules framed by Government for the purpose have been adopted by all the Feudatory States except Kalahandi, Bamra, Sonpur, Ranpur, Talcher and Bonai, and large numbers of coolies were recruited from the States. At the request of the Assam Labour Board the Local Government have, with the concurrence of the Assam Administration, simplified the procedure for the countersignature of certificates granted under the rules.

The reports show that the "places of accommodation" were generally maintained in good sanitary condition and that there was no serious outbreak of any epidemic disease in them. There were a few sporadic cases of cholera and influenza but effective measures were taken to prevent these diseases from spreading. In some of the places of accommodation the emigrants were inoculated against cholera.

**432.** The number of criminal cases in which emigrants were complainants and the number of persons convicted rose from 13 and 16 in 1917-18 to 28 and 23 respectively in 1918-19; in view of the enormous increase in the volume of emigration this slight increase in crime is not remarkable. Criminal Cases.

The steady flow of emigration under the regulations provided by the Act has unquestionably proved an inestimable boon to the labouring classes of the province and of the Chota Nagpur Division in particular, as a mitigant of the severe scarcity and even famine conditions which would otherwise have prevailed in several districts.

## Medical Institutions.

[Annual returns of Hospitals and Dispensaries in Bihar and Orissa for the year 1918.—Statistics of British India, Part V—Area, Population and Public Health.]

**433.** There were 425 hospitals and dispensaries of all classes in the province against 420 in the previous year. Four District Board, one Public Works Department and two Railway dispensaries were opened, while six Mission and private non-aided institutions which were already in existence were brought under the recognition of the Medical Department. Eight dispensaries were closed during the year, of which two were District Board dispensaries and six belonged either to Missions or Railway Companies or to private bodies. Number of dispensaries.

Number of patients treated.

**434.** During the year 3,843,389 patients were treated as compared with 3,807,173 in 1917 showing an increase of 36,216. In view of the wide-spread influenza epidemic this increase is not as large as might have been expected. Of the total number of patients treated 57,148 were in-patients and 3,786,241 out-patients.

Diseases treated.

**435.** There was an increase under cholera and plague, the number of cases treated being 22,731 and 5,020 respectively against 12,825 and 3,675 in the previous year. The year however showed a decrease under small-pox, tubercle of the lungs and malaria. The number of deaths from fever amongst the general population was 1,382,835 against 776,231 in 1917. This increase is almost wholly attributable to the influenza epidemic. The death rate rose from 35·2 in the previous year to 56·7 in the year under report.

Finance.

**436.** The total income of the medical institutions in the province amounted to Rs. 12,65,560 and their expenditure to Rs. 12,28,609. Of the total receipts 26·93 per cent was obtained from Government, 9·36 per cent from Municipalities, 45·25 per cent from District Boards, 2·97 per cent from other local funds, 8·79 per cent from subscriptions and donations, 3·97 per cent from interest on investments and 2·73 per cent from other miscellaneous sources.

Medical schools.

**437.** The number of students on the rolls of the Medical Schools at Patna and Cuttack during 1918-19 were 169 and 176 respectively compared with 159 and 167 during the preceding year.

Leper Asylums.

**438.** In the eight leper asylums in the province, there were altogether 1,667 leper inmates in 1918 against 1,373 in the preceding year; 2,555 leper patients were treated at hospitals and dispensaries during the year against 2,802 in 1917. The total expenditure for maintaining the asylums amounted to Rs. 98,736 of which Government contributed Rs. 24,305, Municipalities Rs. 4,183 and District Boards Rs. 4,531, and the balance was received in the form of contributions from the Mission to Lepers in India and the East and from other sources.

## Lunatic Asylums.

[Annual returns of the European Lunatic Asylum at Ranchi and the Patna Lunatic Asylum at Bankipore in Bihar and Orissa for the year 1918.]

Population, admission and discharge of lunatics.

**439.** *European Lunatic Asylum, Ranchi.*—The most important event during the year was the opening of the Ranchi European Lunatic Asylum on the 17th May 1918, with an accommodation for ninety-two male and eighty-eight female patients. Patients are received at the new asylum from Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, the United Provinces, the Punjab, the Central Provinces, Berar and Assam, and in addition military insanes from the North-Western Frontier Province and British Baluchistan are also received. Since its opening 181 patients, of whom 103 were males and seventy-eight females, were admitted into the asylum. Of these, only six males were discharged cured and six males and five females died. The daily average strength and the maximum number confined in any one night were 131·50 and 170, respectively. The total number of admissions to the hospital was forty-six males and twelve females, the average daily sick being 2·60 and 1·54 respectively.

The total receipts under all heads aggregated Rs. 1,03,738 and the charges for the up-keep amounted to Rs. 97,505 including Rs. 19,971, the cost of the work done by the Public Works Department.

*Indian Lunatic Asylum, Patna.*—At the beginning of the year there were 252 males and forty-three females under treatment in the Patna Lunatic Asylum which can accommodate 330 males and 66 females. Admissions and readmissions during the year numbered seventy-eight and fourteen males and thirteen and four females, respectively; those discharged numbered seventy-three males and ten females of whom forty-two males and five females were cured. The daily average strength was 301·24. The percentage of those cured to the daily average strength was 15·60 and the death rate 11·62 against 12·68 and 11·68, respectively, in the previous year. The general health of

the lunatics was less satisfactory than in the previous year chiefly—owing to the outbreak of influenza and the pollution of the water and flooding of the asylum during the rains.

The daily average sick was 34·45 as compared with 27·25 in 1917. The total mortality was 35, viz., thirty males and five females.

The total receipts under all heads at the Patna Asylum were Rs. 43,524 and expenditure amounted to Rs. 40,628.

The difficulty of procuring building materials for the Ranchi Central Asylum for Indian insanes necessitated the recasting of the plans and consequent postponement of most of the work. The work has, however, been taken in hand and every effort is being made to complete the work as expeditiously as possible.

## Sanitation.

[Report of the Sanitary Commissioner, Bihar and Orissa, for the year 1918.]

**Sanitary improvements.**

**440.** The total expenditure for sanitary purposes in Municipalities and District Boards during the year 1917-18 was Rs. 15,60,578 and Rs. 3,53,129 respectively as compared with Rs. 13,62,667 and Rs. 4,19,098 in the previous year. In Municipalities there was an increase of Rs. 1,60,118 under the head "Conservancy" and decrease of Rs. 1,12,273 under the head "Drainage". In District Boards the decrease under the head "Sanitation" was Rs. 65,969.

Progress in sanitary engineering has been slow during the year. This has been due partly to the concentration of the Sanitary Engineer and his staff on the preparation of a few big schemes at Patna and Puri and partly to the difficulty of construction during the war.

**Health Officers.**

**441.** Out of twelve Municipalities that employ Health Officers, five Municipalities had no Health Officers for the whole year and by the end of the year two more municipalities had lost the services of their Health Officers.

**Sanitary Laboratory.**

**442.** The Laboratory examined 528 articles as compared with 751 in 1917, and carried out also a further series of examinations of Ganges water to test the variation in its alkalinity.

**Press and Publicity Bureau.**

**443.** For the present the Sanitary Commissioner proposes to concentrate his publicity campaign in the towns and schools and to try to educate the educated classes in matters of hygiene, with the hope that the knowledge will gradually spread downwards. A special publicity bureau has been formed in charge of a Health Officer who will contribute freely to the provincial papers, and arrangements are being made for a series of lectures enlivened by lantern slides in the principal towns of the province.

**Medical Examination of students and teaching of hygiene in schools.**

**444.** A scheme for the introduction of compulsory courses of hygiene instruction in upper classes of High Schools and for regular medical inspection of schools and examination of pupils is under consideration.

## Vaccination.

[Report of the Sanitary Commissioner, Bihar and Orissa, for the year 1918, and Annual Vaccination Report for 1918-19.]

**Small-pox and Vaccination.**

**445.** The rate of mortality from small-pox was ·1 identical with the rate in 1917 and stood at ·1 as against ·2 the average of the last five years. During the last ten years the total number of deaths from small-pox in this province has been 75,731.

The total number of vaccinations performed during the year amounted to 972,423 as compared with 1,097,676 last year. The decrease was due to the wide-spread prevalence of influenza during the working season. Of the total number of operations, 953,535 were performed by the Vaccination Department of which 914,761 were primary and 38,774 re-vaccination. The percentage of successful operations performed by the Vaccination Department was 97·52.

During the year the Bengal Vaccination Acts were extended to Garhwa Union in Palamau, Dhanbad in Manbhum and Chakradharpur Municipality in Singhbhum.

The working cost of the Vaccine Depôt at Nankum was Rs. 29,685 against Rs. 22,183 last year. The increase was due to the rise in the price of all materials.

Two severe epidemics of Rinderpest broke out during the year and the depôt had to be closed and calves discharged on both occasions. Experimental work in connection with the manufacture of vaccine was continued during the year.

# CHAPTER VII.-INSTRUCTION.

## General System of Public Instruction.

*See*—

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT FOR 1911-12; PART II, PAGES 220—225.

## Education.

[Report on the Progress of Education in Bihar and Orissa for 1918-19.—Statistics of British India, Part VII.—Education.]

Staff.

**446.** Of the seven officers of the Education Department absent on deputation to military duty, Mr. F. R. Blair returned to his post of the Assistant Director of Public Instruction being released from military duty. Besides Mr. Blair, Messrs McCombe, Moore and Whitlock were demobilized towards the close of the year.

One post was added during the year to the cadre of the Indian Educational Service for an officer to perform the duties of Registrar of Examinations, Inspector of European Schools and Secretary to the Text Book Committee and Mr. Whitlock was placed on deputation to perform the duties of this appointment. Of the four posts vacant in the Indian Educational Service at the close of the preceding year, three were filled by the appointment of Mr. R. P. Khosla, as Professor of Economics at Cuttack, of Mr. Jadunath Sarkar as Professor of History at Cuttack and of Rai Bahadur Bhagvati Sahay as Inspector of Schools at Bhagalpur.

The cadre of the Provincial Educational Service rose during the year from 65 to 97. Thirty-six additional posts were created for the Headmasters of Government High Schools and District Inspectors of Schools. Sub-Inspectors were appointed to take the place of the Inspecting Pandits.

The appointment of a Superintendent and a second Assistant Superintendent of Sanskrit Studies has been of great help in connection with Sanskrit Schools. The appointment of six more inspecting Maulavis will greatly help the proper inspection of the Maktabs.

General Statistics.

**447.** The total expenditure on Public Instruction was Rs. 89,01,449, of which direct expenditure amounted to Rs. 63,98,695 and indirect to Rs. 25,02,754. Of the direct expenditure Rs. 4,99,751 was spent on colleges, Rs. 19,68,225 on secondary schools, Rs. 30,50,146 on primary schools and Rs. 8,80,563 on training and other special schools. Of the indirect expenditure Rs. 1,66,653 was spent on the University, Rs. 6,52,363 on direction and inspection, more than one lakh on scholarships, about twelve lakhs on buildings, furniture and apparatus and about four lakhs on miscellaneous charges. In British territory alone there were 28,713 institutions attended by 827,140 scholars representing 15·9 of the total population of school-going age. The number of male pupils was 715,237 or 18·1 per cent of the male population of school-going age and of the female pupils 111,903 or 4·2 per cent of the female population of school-going age.

Rs. 2,47,517 were spent on European Schools to which provincial revenues contributed Rs. 1,27,705.

13[illegible]

University.

**448.** The first faculties of Boards of Studies were formed in the year 1918-19 and courses for different examinations were prepared. The number of candidates at the different examinations did not vary greatly from the previous year. The only important change was in the Matriculation figures where the number of candidates fell from 3,615 to 3,286. The Government contribution to the funds of the University during the year amounts to Rs. 57,748. A donation of Rs. 1,500 was given by His Honour the Chancellor of the University for the endowment of a gold medal for proficiency in English.

Arts Colleges.

**449.** There are seven Arts Colleges in the province of which three are managed by Government, viz., the Patna College, the Ravenshaw College and the Greer Bhumihar Brahman College. St. Columba's College, the Bihar National College and the Tej Narayan Jubilee College are aided institutions while towards the close of the year a grant-in-aid has been made to the Diamond Jubilee College, Monghyr. The total number of students rose during the year from 2,811 to 2,914 and the direct expenditure from Rs. 3,91,183 to Rs. 4,20,699. The expenditure from provincial revenues also increased to Rs. 2,53,613. All the colleges made steady progress and several of them are carrying out valuable research work with the help of the members of their staff.

Mr. Jackson continued in charge of Patna College till March 1919 when he and Dr. Caldwell were placed on special duty in connection with the preparation of the plans for the science block of the new University. Mr. Horne held charge for the rest of the year. Mr. H. R. Batheja was appointed in November 1918 to fill the vacancy caused by the departure of Mr. Owston Smith on long leave; while Mr. D. Auchterlonie appointed in place of Mr. Andrew Smith joined in March. The services of Pandit Ram Avatar Sharma have been lent to the Benares Hindu University for three years from November 2nd, 1918. Mr. Ashutosh Mukharji, Professor of Physics, has been substantively appointed to the Indian Educational Service. The number of students rose from 457 to 468 and the percentage of the Muhammadan students increased.

A scheme for improving the post graduate classes in History and Economics and for opening classes in other subjects at the Patna College was submitted to Government during the year and the classes were opened at the comencement of the next session. The scheme involved the transfer of the I. A. Classes to Patna Collegiate School, the four lower classes of which had already been closed, but this arrangement has been adopted only as a temporary measure.

At the Ravenshaw College the number of students fell from 499 to 471. Additional posts were created for a lecturer in Logic, demonstrator in Chemistry and Physics and a store-keeper for the chemical laboratory, while the posts of drill instructor and lecturer in Sanskrit, which had been vacant for some time were filled during the year. Mr. Jadu Nath Sarkar was transferred to the College as Professor of History.

At the Greer Bhumihar Brahmin College, Mr. Khosla remained in charge, except for about four months, during which his services were placed at the disposal of the Patiala State. The numbers remained the same as last year, viz., 297. The College has been admitted to the I. Sc. standard in Chemistry and Physics and the necessary staff has been appointed.

## Secondary Education.

The total number of secondary schools for boys and girls rose from 497 to 525 and that of the pupils from 73,446 to 73,842. Expenditure rose from Rs. 18,17,455 to Rs. 19,68,235 and the average cost of a pupil was Rs. 27-8-10 against Rs 25-15-5 in 1917-18.

The number of boys' schools rose from 474 to 498 and that of their pupils from 70,732 to 70,800; their total cost is Rs. 18,14,588 against Rs. 16,76,965 last year, and the cost of educating a pupil is Rs. 26-7-6 against Rs. 24-13-9 in 1917-18.

The number of secondary schools for Indian boys rose from 470 to 495 and that of their pupils from 70,295 to 70,412; their cost rose from Rs. 16,24,289 to Rs. 17,76,320 and the cost of educating a pupil from Rs. 24-3-10 to Rs. 26-0-11.

The number of High Schools rose from 106 to 114, that of Middle English Schools from 234 to 242 and that of Middle Vernacular Schools from 130 to 139. The number of students rose from 35,202 to 35,908 but in Middle English Schools there was a drop from 23,617 to 23,144 and in Middle Vernacular Schools from 11,476 to 11,360.

During the year courses of study were framed for the School Leaving Certificate Examination which will be held for the first time in 1921.

The following schools were permitted during the year under review to open class XII and to present candidates at the Matriculation Examination of 1920:—the Gruning Soghra Waqf High School at Bihar, the Mokamah Ghat High School, the Gait High School at Aurangabad, the Model Institute and the Khatriya High School at Arrah, the Sursand High School at Muzaffarpur the Katihar High School and the Maheshpur High School in the Santal Parganas.

### Primary Education.

The total number of boys' primary schools fell from 23,268 to 23,052 and that of their pupils from 652,478 to 635,123; their total cost is Rs. 27,44,096 and the cost of educating a pupil Rs. 4-9-4. These figures include recognized maktabs and Sanskrit pathsalas.

The number of primary schools for Indian boys fell from 23,265 to 23,046 and that of their pupils from 652,439 to 634,946. The total expenditure increased from Rs. 26,36,341 to Rs. 27,29,084 and the expenditure from public funds from Rs. 12,81,681 to Rs. 14,04,532. The number of Upper Primary Schools rose from 1,738 to 1,816 and that of their pupils from 92,880 to 94,422, the decrease in the number of primary schools was limited to the Lower Primary Class.

**450.** The number of pupils in the five first grade training schools rose from 364 to 372. The increase would have been larger had it not been that, owing to the failures at the First Departmental examination in the Cuttack School in 1918, there were only 56 pupils at that school as compared with 76 in the previous year. As in 1917-18, the full complement was not secured for the Bengali section of the Ranchi Training School. **Training of Teachers.**

The number of Government training schools for *gurus* and Muhammadan teachers rose from 116 to 119 owing to the opening of three new Muhammadan Teachers' training schools at Bastwara, in the District of Darbhanga, Daltonganj and Bhadrak. The number of pupils rose from 1,739 to 2,203 as it was decided to admit 20 instead of 16 pupils at each school. The number of aided schools remained three, while their pupils rose in number from 76 to 79. An unaided school with 10 pupils was opened at Kairabani in the Santal Parganas and since the close of the year another such school has been opened at Motihari.

**451.** The number of students in the Patna Law College rose from 251 to 294, of whom 243 were in the B. L. classes and 51 in the pleadership classes. A new scheme for the pleadership examination was formulated by the Council of Legal Education and will come into force in 1920. **Law Colleges.**

The number of students in the pleadership classes at Bhagalpur rose from 32 to 37 and at Cuttack from 11 to 14. The question of opening B. L. classes at Cuttack is still under consideration.

**452.** Excluding the eight Lace schools the number of technical and professional institutions fell from 42 to 41, owing to the closure of the Cuttack Survey School. The number of pupils however rose from 1,647 to 1,692 and the expenditure from Rs. 2,29,570 to Rs. 2,57,310. Two new artisan schools were opened at Bettiah while the artisan school at Bundu in Chota **Medical, Engineering, Surveying and other Schools.**

Nagpur and a Commercial School in Patna ceased to exist. Funds have been allotted for the construction of a Government Industrial School at Phulbani in the Khondmals.

At the Medical Schools at Cuttack and Bankipore the number of students rose from 273 to 316 while the expenditure fell from Rs. 82,957 to Rs. 82,441.

The number of students in the Mining classes was 391 against 456 in the previous year. The expenditure from Provincial revenues on these classes rose from Rs. 1,160 to Rs. 5,160.

The number of students at the Bihar School of Engineering fell from 155 to 144, the decrease being due solely to the abolition of the Vernacular Survey class. The direct expenditure rose from Rs. 63,064 to Rs. 88,180.

The school continued to do excellent work. At the annual examination conducted by the Joint Technical Examination Board 15 students qualified as Overseers and 23 as Sub-Overseers out of 16 and 30 candidates respectively. Two students from this school secured the second and fourth places respectively, in the combined pass-list of B. E. and Upper Subordinate students in the competitive examination held at Purulia, which is attended by candidates from Sibpur, Dacca and Bankipore.

The Ranchi Industrial School taught 114 pupils against 110 last year. The expenditure fell from Rs. 26,164 to Rs. 25,474 but the cost to provincial revenues rose from Rs. 15,065 to Rs. 15,498. Five students were successful at the Sub-Overseer examination out of 15 candidates as compared with 7 out of 12 last year.

The number of pupils in the Survey School at Angul was 33 against 28 last year, while the expenditure was Rs. 413 against Rs. 302.

The "B" classes at the Bhagalpur Zila School had 33 students on the roll against 37 last year. The classes will be closed after the current session.

The number of artisan schools rose from 20 to 21.

The number of Commercial Schools fell from 6 to 5 and that of their pupils from 137 to 129 while their expenditure rose from Rs. 5,763 to Rs. 6,187.

**Education of Indian girls and women.**

**453.** The number of Lace Schools shown in the returns is 8 in addition to classes in connection with the Baptist Mission Schools at Balasore and Cuttack which are not returned separately. The Roman Catholic Mission School at Ranchi has developed into a business organization.

The number of public institutions for Indian girls rose during the year from 2,586 to 2,634 and that of the girls attending them from 60,968 to 62,163 while 72 private institutions with 1,612 girls were reported as compared to 54 with 991 girls. The direct expenditure rose from Rs. 4,36,680 to Rs. 4,68,433. The number of girls in the boys' schools continues to fall, being now 47,617 against 48,376 last year. The net result is an increase of 1,057 in the total number of girls at school.

The number of pupils in the I. A. Classes attached to the Ravenshaw Girls' School fell during the year from 13 to 11. Four of these girls sat for the I. A. Examination and two were successful. The question of seeking affiliation to the University for this class is under consideration.

Owing to the recognition of St. Margaret's School at Ranchi as a High School the number of High Schools rose from 3 to 4 and that of their pupils from 341 to 719. No other school replaced St. Margaret's and consequently the number of the Middle English Schools fell from 5 to 4 and that of their pupils from 665 to 313. The number of pupils in the Ravenshaw Girls' School remained about the same as before.

The erection of new buildings for the Baptist Mission Middle English School at Bankipore has been completed and spacious new premises have been acquired for the American Mission Middle English School at Muzaffarpur.

The numbers in the practising school attached to the Badshah Nawab Razvi Training College were 130 as against 128 last year.

The number of Middle Vernacular Schools rose from 11 to 16 and that of their pupils from 1,301 to 1,667.

The numbers of primary Schools for girls, including *maktabs* and Sanskrit *pathshalas* rose from 2,552 to 2,594 and that of their pupils rose by 927.

The number of training classes fell from 9 to 7 owing to the amalgamation of two classes in Ranchi and to the conversion of the class at Maharo in the Santal Parganas into a Lace School. The preparatory class at the Badshah Nawab Razvi Training College was opened in January 1919.

The number of middle, upper primary and lower primary scholarships won by girls was 4, 10 and 169, against 2, 3 and 78 last year.

**454.** The number of recognized European Schools remained constant at 19, but the number of pupils rose from 1,081 to 1,146 of whom 635 were boys and 511 girls. The number of Indians in European Schools was 27 as in the previous year and there were 19 Europeans in Indian Schools as compared with 28 last year. **European Schools.**

The total expenditure rose from Rs. 2,12,798 to Rs. 2,47,517 and the expenditure from provincial revenues rose from Rs. 90,236 to Rs. 1,27,705. The increase is due to the raising of the free boarding grant from Rs. 8 to Rs. 10.

**455.** The number of Muhammadan pupils rose from 543 to 578 in Arts Colleges, from 78 to 89 in professional colleges and from 8,307 to 8,781 in secondary schools but fell from 88,191 to 86,866 in primary schools (including *maktabs*) from 2,014 to 1,854 in Special Schools and from 12,374 to 10,015 in private institutions. There was thus a net decrease of 3,324 pupils. The number of recognized *madrasas* fell from 15 to 14 and that of their pupils from 1,274 to 1,095. The total expenditure on them decreased from Rs. 26,195 to Rs. 24,119 and the expenditure from public funds from Rs. 7,389 to Rs. 6,938. The number of recognized *maktabs* rose from 2,365 to 2,390 and that of their pupils from 58,888 to 59,879. The expenditure on these *maktabs* rose from Rs. 2,45,411 to Rs. 2,52,286. **Muhammadan Education.**

**456.** The number of recognized Sanskrit *tols* declined from 368 to 360 and that of their pupils from 10,488 to 10,008. The expenditure from provincial revenues rose from Rs. 24,775 to Rs. 32,889 owing mainly to the provincialization of the Puri Sanskrit College which was carried out at the beginning of the year. **Sanskrit Education.**

**457.** The number of boys in the Hazaribagh Reformatory School declined during the year from 415 to 383 of whom 246 came from Bengal, 15 from Assam and 122 from Bihar and Orissa. The gross expenditure rose from Rs. 1,09,245 to Rs. 1,10,711 and the net expenditure to Government from Rs. 98,089 to Rs. 1,02,841. **Reformatory School.**

**458.** The number of hostels rose from 509 to 521 and that of their inmates from 15,532 to 15,850 and the expenditure from Rs. 1,90,850 to Rs. 2,14,564. **Hostels.**

**459.** Owing to the war the Young Men's Christian Association has not yet succeeded in securing the required expert for the post of Director of Physical Training. There has, therefore, been little improvement in the teaching of drill and gymnastics. **Physical Training.**

## Literature and the Press.

[Statistics of British India, Part VII—Educational.]

**460.** The total number of Hindi books published during the year 1918-19 was 137 against 73 during the previous year. The majority of these consisted of works on religion and miscellaneous subjects, none being worthy of special mention. Only 21 books were published in Urdu. The total number of Oriya books published during the year was 489 against 637 during the previous year. **Publications registered.**

Most of these consisted of school books or works on mythology, religion, poetry and miscellaneous subjects.

Newspapers.

**461.** The newspapers and periodicals in circulation at the close of the year were 59 compared with 65 in 1917 and 61 in 1916. Ten publications ceased issue. Of the four new publications the *Searchlight* was the most prominent.

Eighteen newspapers and periodicals were published in English, seventeen in Hindi, eleven in Oriya, four in Urdu and three in Bengali, while six contained articles in both English and Oriya. The *Express* continued to be the only daily paper, while the *Searchlight* was published bi-weekly. Of the remainder, twenty-one were published—three fortnightly, twenty-seven monthly and six at longer intervals.

Patna continued to be the most important press centre in the province and from this town are published the *Searchlight*, the *Bihar Herald*, the *Bihar News*, the *Express*, the *Pataliputra* and six other periodicals. In Cuttack several missionary magazines are published and also the *Oriya* and the *Utkal Dipika*. Two periodicals are published in the Orissa Feudatory States.

A perusal of the newspapers of 1918 shows that, though one or two papers are conducted with some ability, there has been little general improvement in their standard. During the first three years, the war had exercised a restraining influence, but the growth of the Home Rule agitation in 1917 gave a great impulse to "political writing". A direct result of the Home Rule movement was the publication in Patna of the *Searchlight*, a bi-weekly published in English, which made its first appearance about the time of issue of the Montagu-Chelmsford Report. Security was demanded from the press, an action which was described in the paper as a serious and unmerited slur cast upon the Directorate. It was, however, clear before the end of the year that the more moderate directors had little control over the paper and the demand for security was fully justified. Security had also to be demanded from the press responsible for the publication of the *Sri Kamala* of Bhagalpur which took to politics when the Home Rule league was formed in that town. Its articles were of the most offensive type. When security was demanded, the paper ceased publication and the demand against the press was withdrawn.

Security was demanded from and given by the *Bihar Advocate* published in Gaya.

Two newspapers were warned for the publication of offensive articles.

# CHAPTER VIII.—ARCHÆOLOGY.

## Archæology.

**462.** Rupees 16,704-15-0 were spent on conservation. The dismantling and rebuilding of the Jagmohan of the Maitresvara temple was completed and Rs. 8,053 were spent in repairs to the famous Black Pagoda at Konarak. The monument over the battlefield at Buxar was completed and the tomb of Saiyid Ibrahim at Bihar in Patna district was repaired. Repairs at a cost of over Rs. 200 were carried out at the tomb of Mukhdum Shah Dowlat at Maner in Patna, at the Rohtas fort in Shahabad, and at the fort at Buxar. Conservation.

**463.** At Nalanda only such work was carried out as was necessary for the execution of urgent repairs. The courtyard of the main monastery (No. 1) has now been cleared of earth, revealing a quadrangular brick structure of the later period and a few stone and bronze images—some of them inscribed with the Buddhist creed formula—and an interesting iron padlock have been recovered. The total amount spent during the year was Rs. 3,663-1-2. Conservation work was mainly confined to monastery No. 2 which has now been almost completed. Large patches of the high wall facing the courtyard were rebuilt, and repairs were carried out on the cells of the monastery. It is hoped that the conservation of the monastery will be completed next year. Nalanda.

**464.** A lion sculpture at Masarh in Shahabad, a pillar of the Sungan age at Rajasan in Hajipur, and an inscribed fragment of a rail of the Kushan period also in Hajipur were discovered. Twenty-four silver coins, said to be the issues of Ghiyasuddin Balban Shah of Dehli, were found in Monghyr, and a copper plate containing a 12th Century inscription has been recovered from a villager in Darbhanga and presented to the Patna Museum. Excavations were conducted at Belwa in Saran district from a grant of Rs. 3,000 provided by the Maharaja of Hatwa. A statue of Vishnu and an interesting carved door-way of the mediæval period were recovered with other fragments. Discoveries.

**465.** Impressions of important inscriptions have been taken by the epigraphist Babu Madho Swarup including impressions of several inscriptions preserved in the Indian Museum, Calcutta. It is intended that all the epigraphs from the province should be collected at the Patna Museum. Epigraphy.

**466.** The monuments at Basarh in the district of Muzaffarpur have been added to the list and 13 temples at Bhubaneshvar in Puri district have been withdrawn from protection. Protected Monuments.

**467.** Eight hundred and eighty-five specimens in the archæological and 291 in the numismatical section were acquired, 882 of the former were presented. These specimens include the antiquities discovered by Dr. Spooner, at Basarh in Muzaffarpur district, a number of sculptures and some pottery from Bodh Gaya. Casts of five sculptures in the Indian Museum have been taken by the Modeller. A collection of war trophies from Mesopotamia have been deposited for exhibit in the Museum. Government grants were given for the purchase of books and show-cases. The net cost to Government of maintaining the Museum was Rs. 9,653. Museum.

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